1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION					
2						
3						
4	JAWANZA SMITH, CARLO)					
5	BURNEY, BRIAN WYNN,) CARLON LEWIS and) STANLEY HILL,)					
6)					
7	Plaintiff,)					
8	vs.) CIVIL ACTIO FILE) NO. 1:16-cv-01359-TWT					
9	IDEAL TOWING, LLC, MICHAEL JAMES and)					
	TISHJA JAMES,)					
10) Defendants.)					
11)					
12						
13						
14						
15	DEPOSITION OF					
16						
17	CARLON LEWIS					
18	May 4, 2017					
19	10:00 a.m.					
20	101 Marietta Street					
21	3100 Centennial Tower Atlanta, Georgia					
22						
23	Lamarra George, CCR-2582					
24						
25						
4 3						

1	APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL
2	On behalf of the Plaintiff:
3	ON BENAIL OF THE PLAINCILL: JAWANZA SMITH, CARLO BURNEY, BRIAN WYNN, CARLON LEWIS and STANLEY HILL
4	MITCHELL D. BENJAMIN, ESQ.
5	Delong Caldwell Bridgers Fitzpatrick & Benjamin 3100 Centennial Tower
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7	770-859-0754 Benjamin@dcbflegal.com
8	On behalf of the Defendant:
9	IDEAL TOWING, LLC, MICHAEL JAMES and TISHJA JAMES
10	JORDAN M. MAHONEY, ESQ.
11	The Burke Law Group, LLC 199 Peters Street, NW
12	Suite A Atlanta, Georgia 303013
13	404-688-1210 Eburke@burkelawatl.com
14	Jordan.mahoney@burkelawatl.com
15	
16	Also Present:
17	Tishja James
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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3	1	Ideal Towing, LLC Independent Contractor Agreement signed by Carlon Lewis	8 6
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23	(Exh:	ibits 1 through 5 have been attached t	o the
24	original t	ranscript.)	
25			

1	CARLON LEWIS,
2	having been first duly sworn, was examined and
3	testified as follows:
4	MR. MAHONEY: Can you please state
5	your full name for the record.
6	THE WITNESS: Carlon Lopez Lewis.
7	MR. MAHONEY: Good morning. My name
8	is Jordan Mahoney. I'm an attorney for the
9	defendants in this matter.
10	Have you ever taken a deposition
11	before?
12	THE WITNESS: No.
13	MR. MAHONEY: Have you ever been a
14	witness or given testimony in a formal
15	legal proceeding?
16	THE WITNESS: No.
17	MR. BENJAMIN: Jordan, did you want
18	to abide by the same stipulations that we
19	had in affect for the other depositions in
20	this case?
21	MR. MAHONEY: Yes.
22	MR. BENJAMIN:
23	MR. MAHONEY: Yes. Mr. Benjamin, do
24	we agree to reserve all objections, other
25	than form and responsiveness of the witness

1	until first use?
2	MR. BENJAMIN: And the application
3	of privilege, yes.
4	MR. MAHONEY: And have you had a
5	chance to speak with your client about
6	signature?
7	MR. BENJAMIN: We will reserve. We
8	haven't off the record for a moment.
9	(Whereupon, a brief discussion was
10	held off the record.)
11	MR. MAHONEY: Now, Mr. Lewis, are
12	you under any medications or under the
13	influence of any substances that may affect
14	your ability to testify honestly and
15	truthfully this morning?
16	THE WITNESS: No.
17	MR. MAHONEY: Do you typically use
18	any medications on a daily basis?
19	THE WITNESS: No.
20	MR. MAHONEY: All right. I'd like
21	to go over a few ground rules to help the
22	deposition go smoothly and efficiently.
23	Ms. George is here and she's taking
24	down everything that we say. So it's very
25	important that we verbalize our responses,

yeses and noes rather shaking our head and 1 2 nodding our head. Even though that's 3 regular in conversation, it's very hard for her to take those types of responses down. THE WITNESS: Yes. 5 6 MR. MAHONEY: Also, I will try to 7 let you finish your entire answer before I begin my next question. That will stop us 8 from talking over each other. It's very 10 hard to take down two people talking at the 11 same time. 12 THE WITNESS: Yes. 13 MR. MAHONEY: I also request that 14 you do the same for me, allow me to finish 15 my entire question before you begin 16 answering. 17 If you need a break at any time, 18 please let me know. I'll be happy to let 19 to you do that. Also, if you have any 20 trouble hearing me or I'm speaking too 21 softly, please let me know. 22 EXAMINATION 23 BY MR. MAHONEY: 2.4 When did you learn about this deposition? 25 When I was e-mailed.

```
1
                  When were you e-mailed?
 2
                  Last week. Well, hold on. Week before.
      Week before.
 3
                  From when you learned about the deposition
 4
 5
      until now, did you review any documents to help you
      this morning?
 6
 7
            Α
                  No.
 8
                  Did you speak with anyone other than your
      attorney --
10
            Α
                  No.
11
                  -- about the facts of this case?
            0
12
                  I'm sorry. No.
            Α
13
                  That's fine.
            Q
14
                  Now, I want to be very clear, and that's
15
      not just for right now, but for the entirety of our
16
      deposition, I don't want you to go into any specifics
17
      of what you discussed with your attorneys, because
18
      that's privileged.
19
                  Okay.
            Α
20
            Q
                  Do you have any prior arrests?
                  Yes. One.
21
            Α
                  When?
22
23
            Α
                  April 2001.
24
                  For what?
            Q
25
                  Loitering.
            Α
```

```
Did you say loitering?
1
            Q
2
            Α
                  Yes.
                  Were you convicted?
 3
            Q
            Α
                  No.
                  Was it dismissed?
5
            Q
6
            Α
                  Yes.
7
                  Where did that occur?
            0
                  DeKalb County, Decatur, Georgia.
8
            Α
                  Where do you currently reside?
            Q
10
                  DeKalb County, Decatur, Georgia.
            Α
11
                  Can you give me your full address?
            0
12
                  3841 Kensington Road, Decatur, Georgia,
            Α
      30032.
13
14
                  How long have you lived there?
            Q
15
                  Four years.
            Α
16
                  Who lives in that residence with you?
17
                  My fiance' and three of my kids.
            Α
18
                  I'm going to ask you the names of some of
            0
19
      your family members. I'm doing that for the sole
20
      purpose of finding out if there's anyone on the jury
21
      that has relation to you so we can prevent them from
22
      being on the jury in the trial of your matter.
23
                  What's the name of your fiance?
2.4
                  Sheila Johnson.
            Α
25
                  What are the names and ages of your
            0
```

```
1
      children?
               Caron Lewis, 12. You mean the kids that
 2
 3
      stay in my house with me?
                 Yes, sir.
 4
           Q
                  Okay. Yeah, Caron Lewis, 12; Shakaria
 5
 6
      Lewis, 7; Camille Lewis, 6.
 7
                Do you have any other family members that
      lives in the Atlanta metro area?
 8
           Α
                  My whole family.
10
                  I'm going to have to ask you to name them.
11
           Α
                  My whole family? We'll be here for days.
12
                 How many family members do you believe you
      have in the Atlanta metro area?
13
14
                  MR. BENJAMIN: That are over 18 that
15
           could be on the jury?
16
                 (By Mr. Mahoney) That are ove -- yeah,
      let's try to do --
17
               That are over 18 on the jury, hundreds.
18
19
      Seriously. My family's big. My mom's like --
20
           Q
              Can you tell me the -- I'm sorry. Can you
21
      tell me the last names?
22
                  Okay. I can do that. I got the Hearse
23
      Dennis, that's my mom's maiden name. Lewis,
24
      Whiteheads, Halls, McBrides, Summerhouse, Cannon.
25
      That's far as -- some of I can think of. Some of
```

```
them I don't even know their last names. They're
 1
      married and stuff.
 2
 3
                 The ones you can't remember their last
      names, can you tell me their first names?
 4
 5
                 Well, those -- I don't think they're 18
 6
      yet.
 7
               All right. Have you ever been a party to
      a lawsuit before?
 8
            Α
                  No.
10
                  What educational degrees have you
11
      received?
12
            Α
                  I only have a -- it's a -- I got a
13
      diploma.
14
                 A high school diploma?
            Q
15
            Α
                 Yes.
16
                  It's not a GED?
            Q
                  No. Full diploma. Certificates from
17
            Α
18
      college.
19
                 More than one?
            Q
20
            Α
                  Yes.
21
                  What certificates do you have?
            Q
22
            Α
                  Brakes, climate control, electrical,
23
      automotive division.
24
                 And where did you receive your diploma?
25
                 DeKalb Technical College.
```

```
1
                  Your high school diploma?
 2
            Α
                  Oh, my school diploma. I'm sorry.
      Avondale High School.
 3
                 And where --
 4
            0
 5
                  Slash -- I'm sorry. Slash open campus.
      had to go there for a second. So it should -- might
 6
 7
      have both of them.
 8
                  And where did you receive each
      certificate?
 9
10
               DeKalb Technical College.
11
            0
                  They offer classes on brakes?
12
                  Huh?
            Α
13
                  They offer classes on brakes?
            Q
14
                  Yes.
            Α
15
                  Automotive?
            Q
16
                  Yeah. That's the automotive division, the
            Α
17
      brakes, climate control and electrical automotive
      division. So each one is different classes for that
18
19
      program.
20
                 Do you have any other professional or
21
      vocational training other than that?
22
            Α
                  No.
23
                  Did you receive training at any of your
24
      past employers?
25
                  MR. BENJAMIN: School training or on
```

```
the job?
 1
 2
               (By Mr. Mahoney) On-the -job training at
 3
      employers.
                  I mean, of course.
 4
                  What was your first job after high school?
 5
            Q
                  After high school?
 6
            Α
 7
                  Yes.
            0
 8
                  I started working during high school.
            Α
            Q
                  During high school.
10
                  Mrs. Winners.
            Α
11
                  What years did you work there?
            Q
                  '97 to '98.
12
            Α
13
                  When did you graduate from high school by
            Q
14
      the way?
                  2001.
15
            Α
16
                  And when did you graduate from DeKalb
17
      Technical Institute?
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
18
19
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) DeKalb Technical College.
20
                  MR. BENJAMIN: I don't think he said
21
            he graduated. He said he got certificates.
22
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah, I didn't
23
            graduate, but --
24
                  MR. MAHONEY: Okay.
25
                  THE WITNESS: -- that's my plan.
```

```
MR. MAHONEY: That's fine.
 1
 2
                   (By Mr. Mahoney) So what years did you
      attend Avondale High School?
 3
                   Avondale High School?
 4
 5
            Q
                   Yes.
                   '94 to '99.
 6
            Α
 7
                  And what year did you receive your
            0
 8
      diploma?
 9
            Α
                   2001.
10
                   And what years did you attend DeKalb
11
      Technical College?
                  From '04 to '05.
12
            Α
13
                  And what year --
            Q
14
                   2004 to 2005. I'm sorry.
            Α
15
                   And what year did you receive your
      certificates?
16
                   2004 and 2005.
17
            Α
18
            0
                   What were your duties at Mrs. Winners?
19
                   Cashier, cook, drivethrough.
            Α
20
                   What were your hours?
            Q
21
                   After school hours from, like, 5 to 10.
            Α
22
                   Were you paid hourly?
            Q
23
            Α
                   Yes.
24
            Q
                   What was your rate?
25
            Α
                   Seven fifteen. Hold on. No, no, no, no.
```

```
Five fifteen. I'm sorry. That's about 20 -- 20 --
 1
      30 years ago. Yeah, five fifteen.
 2
 3
                  And do you consider that a wage?
                  Do I consider that a wage?
 5
                  A wage.
            Q
                  Five fifteen an hour, that was my hourly
 6
            Α
 7
      wage.
 8
                  What was your reason for leaving?
            Q
 9
            Α
                  It was just a high school job for prom.
                                                             Ι
10
      was in 11th grade.
11
            0
                  Did you have to punch a clock?
12
            Α
                  Yes.
13
                  Were you allowed to leave?
            Q
14
                  Allowed to leave, yes. On my freewill,
            Α
      yes.
15
16
                  After you punched the clock?
17
                  Well, no. When I punched the clock, I had
            Α
18
      to do my job.
19
                  What was your next job?
            Q
20
                  Folks Southern Kitchen.
            Α
21
                  And when did you work there?
            0
22
            Α
                  Like 2001, 2002.
23
                  Why did you decide to work there?
24
                  I wanted to try to move out. My brother
25
      worked there.
```

```
1
                  What were your duties?
                  Fry cook, fried the chicken. I was the
 2
 3
      fry line cook exactly. I'm sorry.
                  What were your hours?
 4
            Q
 5
                  MR. BENJAMIN: If you remember.
 6
            don't want you speculating.
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Okay. Like, 1 to 10,
 8
            open to close. Open two to three,
            something. My brother was the manager, so
10
            I went in with him.
11
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) And were you paid by the
12
      hour?
                  Yes.
13
            Α
14
            Q
                  How much?
15
                  I can't remember.
            Α
16
                  What was your reason for leaving?
            Q
17
                  Better job offer.
            Α
18
                  Did you punch a clock?
            0
19
            Α
                  Yes.
20
            Q
                  Once you punched the clock, were you
21
      allowed to leave?
22
            Α
                  No.
23
            Q
                  What was your next job?
24
                  Auto Zone.
            Α
25
                  When did you work there?
            Q
```

2001 to 2002. 1 Α 2 At the same time you were working at Folks Southern Kitchen? 3 Yeah. No, it's not the same time. I 4 worked at Folks Southern Kitchen when I was getting 5 6 my -- graduating high school. So right after I 7 graduated high school, got ready to go to college 8 that I knew I wanted to go to automotive, so I jumped into Auto Zone to get me ready for my field before I 10 went to DeKalb Tech. 11 All right. Earlier you testified that you 12 worked at Folks Southern Kitchen 2001 and 2002. So 13 when did you start at Auto Zone? 14 The end of two thousand -- 2001. I did it -- like, worked both of them for a second, then I 15 16 stopped. 17 All right. Did you receive any training 18 there? 19 Auto Zone? Α 20 Q Yes. 21 Customer service, parts lookup, warehouse, Α 22 parts pulling. 23 Were those your duties? 24 Α Yes. 25 What were your hours? 0

```
6 to 2, 8 to 5, 8 to 3. Different hours.
 1
      It varied.
 2
                  And were you paid hourly?
 3
            Q
                  Yes.
            Α
 5
                  What was your wage?
            Q
 6
            Α
                  Seven fifty.
 7
                 Did you punch a clock?
            Q
 8
                  Yes.
            Α
                  Were you allowed to leave?
            Q
10
                  No.
            Α
11
            Q
                  Why did you leave?
12
                  I got -- I went to DeKalb Tech. First, I
            Α
13
      -- I started working with my grandfather doing
14
      construction, pouring concrete.
15
               All right. So that -- was that your next
16
      job?
17
            Α
                  Yes.
18
                  What was the name of the company?
            0
19
                  It was my own -- my granddaddy owned a
            Α
20
      private company. He's deceased, I mean.
21
            Q
                  I understand.
22
            Α
                  Dennis Construction.
23
            Q
                  Dennis?
24
                  Yeah.
            Α
25
                 And what were your duties there?
            Q
```

```
1
                   Laborer, finisher.
            Α
 2
            Q
                   Were you hourly?
 3
            Α
                   No.
                   Were you daily?
            Q
 5
                   Yes.
            Α
 6
                   Were you paid a daily wage?
            Q
 7
            Α
                   Yes.
 8
                   What was the amount?
            Q
            Α
                   125. $125 a day.
10
                   Did you have to punch a clock?
            Q
11
            Α
                   No.
12
                   You just had to show up that day?
            Q
13
                   Yeah.
            Α
14
                   Were you allowed to leave the site?
            Q
15
                   For lunch or to get supplies.
            Α
16
                   What was your next job?
                   I went to school after that.
17
            Α
18
                   And what was your next job?
            0
19
                   My next job, a tow -- well, hold on.
            Α
20
      I did security at CVS, armed security.
21
                   And when did you work there?
            Q
22
            Α
                   '05 to beginning of '06.
23
                   And when did you work at Dennis
24
      Construction by the way?
25
                   When did I work at Dennis Construction?
```

```
1
            Q
                  Yes.
 2
                   2003 to 2005 on and off. Because it was
 3
      my grandfather, so whenever he needed help.
                  Were you hourly at CVS?
 4
            Q
 5
            Α
                  Yes.
 6
                  What were yours hours?
            Q
 7
                  7 to 4, 2 to 10.
            Α
 8
                  7 p.m. or 7 a.m.?
            Α
                  7 a.m. Yeah, it varied. I did mornings
10
      and sometimes did night.
11
                  So it was 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. and then what?
12
                  2 to 10.
            Α
13
            Q
                  p.m. to p.m.?
14
                  Yeah, 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.
            Α
15
                  How much were you paid per hour?
            Q
                  $13 an hour.
16
            Α
17
                  What were your duties?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Protect the customers, watch over the
19
      premises, keep down the theft, chase shoplifters and
20
      bring them back in, work with APD.
21
                  Did you punch a clock?
22
            Α
                  Yes -- no. No.
23
                  What was your routine when you came into
      work?
24
25
                  Came in, looked around, made sure it's all
            Α
```

```
1
      going on, make sure everything smooth, make sure the
      money is transported where it's supposed to be and
 2
      nobody is casing the place.
 3
                  Did you have to sign in?
 4
            Q
 5
            Α
                  No, I called in.
 6
                  Who did you call?
            Q
 7
            Α
                  My supervisor.
 8
                  Every morning?
            Q
            Α
                  Every morning or every afternoon, and
10
      every night when I would -- and every afternoon when
11
      I clock out.
12
                  After you called your supervisor, were you
13
      permitted to leave?
14
            A
                  No.
15
                  MR. BENJAMIN: You mean when he was
16
            just arriving or when he was leaving for
17
            the day?
18
                   (By Mr. Mahoney) Between the times when
19
      you would clock in and clock out --
20
                  During a shift?
            Α
21
                  Yes.
            0
22
            Α
                  No.
23
            Q
                  What was your next job?
24
                  A Tow.
            Α
25
                  And when did you work there?
            0
```

```
'06 to '07.
1
            Α
2
                  Why did you leave CVS?
 3
                  Because A Tow was part of my field,
            Α
 4
      dealing with cars.
5
                  How were you compensated at A Tow?
 6
            Α
                  Commission.
7
                  How much?
            0
8
                  26 percent.
            Α
                  Did you punch a clock?
            Q
10
            Α
                  Yes.
11
                  Were you permitted to leave
12
      the premises after you punched the clock?
13
                  Of course. I had to drive the truck.
            Α
14
                  Did you have a designated area?
            Q
15
            Α
                  Yes.
16
                  What was your designated area?
17
                  Zone 5, which is downtown, APD precinct.
            Α
18
      Yeah, basically that's where we was until we were
19
      dispatch dispatched somewhere else, which they -- A
20
      Tow had two lots. The other was Alpharetta. So we
21
      did police contracts plus roadside, impound.
22
                  So you worked with the police department?
23
                  APD Zone 5, North and South Fulton Police
24
      Department, Georgia State Patrol, Atlanta area
25
      University Colleges. That's about it. And, I
```

```
1
      mean -- and the Department of Public Safety, DPS.
                  Where did you live at the time?
 2
                  Stone Mountain. The exact address?
 3
            Α
                  That's fine. Why did you leave?
 4
            0
                  Leave what?
 5
            Α
 6
                  Why did you leave that company?
            Q
 7
                  Why did I leave A Tow?
            Α
 8
                  Yes.
            Q
            Α
                  My grandfather was getting sick, and so I
10
      needed to go help him with his company.
11
                  Is this the same grandfather --
12
            Α
                  Yes.
13
                  -- that owned Dennis Construction?
14
                  I'm sorry.
            Α
15
                  MR. BENJAMIN: You have to let him
16
            finish.
17
                  THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
                  MR. MAHONEY: It's fine.
18
                                             It's
19
            normal conversation. We all do it.
20
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Is that the same grand
21
      father that owned Dennis Construction?
22
            Α
                  Yes.
23
                  Why did you leave Dennis Construction in
2.4
      2005?
25
                  Never exactly left, but, you know, it was
            Α
```

```
times to do some of my own things.
 1
                  So what was your next job, back at Dennis
 2
 3
      Construction?
                 Stayed at Dennis Construction. I started
      my next towing job two thousand and -- 2009.
 5
 6
                  Why did you want to be in the tow
 7
      business?
                  I love towing.
 8
            Α
                  Do you consider that your occupation?
            Q
10
                  Yes. I consider that my career.
11
                  Have you ever advertised yourself as A Tow
12
      driver?
13
                  A Tow driver --
            Α
14
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Object to form.
                  THE WITNESS: What do you mean?
15
16
                 (By Mr. Mahoney) On social media or to
      friends.
17
18
            Α
                  Like ad -- no.
19
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Object to form.
20
                  THE WITNESS: No, not on social
21
           media, but everybody know I drive a tow
22
            truck, so I don't advertise that.
23
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) How does everyone know?
24
                 Because everybody know what I do. I mean,
25
      but I don't advertise that. I don't put myself out
```

```
there for sale, not for hire.
 1
 2
               But how did they find out that you --
 3
      that's what you do?
                  Of course they see my driving a truck.
 4
                                                            So
      they see me driving a truck, you know, hey, oh,
 5
      that's what you do, yeah, that's what I do.
 6
 7
                  Do you have any social media accounts?
            Q
                  Facebook.
 8
            Α
                  Do you have a Twitter?
            Q
10
                  No.
            Α
11
                  Do you have an Instagram?
            0
12
            Α
                  No.
13
                  Snapchat?
            Q
14
            Α
                  No.
15
                  Is that past your time?
16
                  Tell you the truth, man, I don't even
      worry about that stuff. I don't even watch TV like
17
18
      that, to be honest.
19
                  There's not much to watch on TV?
20
                  No. Just repeats. I got kids. I might
            Α
21
      sit down and watch a couple of cartoons with them.
22
      That's it.
23
                 Do you list your occupation on your
24
      Facebook?
25
                  I don't think so. I haven't been on
```

```
1
      Facebook probably about -- I just get on there and
      look at somebody's and get off. I -- It be weeks at
 2
 3
      a time.
                  When is the last time you did that?
            0
                  Probably about three days ago for about
 5
            Α
 6
      like two minutes.
 7
                  Do you have any pictures on your profile?
            Q
                  Pictures on my profile?
 8
            Α
            Q
                  Yes.
10
            Α
                  Yes.
11
            Q
                  Of yourself?
12
            Α
                  Me and my son.
13
                  Do you have any pictures with you wearing
            Q
14
      a towing uniform?
                  Wearing a towing uniform?
15
            Α
16
                  Yes.
            0
17
                  Probably so.
            Α
18
                  How about with a tow truck in a picture?
            0
19
                  Just a tow truck, yeah. Not just a tow
            Α
20
      truck, but I'm saying yeah because --
21
                  Right. What else --
            0
22
                  If -- if a customer was like hey, man, you
23
      know, you towing an antique, do you want to take a
      picture with me. Well, sure, I guess.
24
25
                  Do you have a LinkedIn profile?
```

```
LinkedIn? What you mean?
 1
            Α
                  It's a social media website?
 2
 3
                  I don't know what that is.
            Α
                  Do you have any career profiles online?
            Q
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
 5
 6
                  THE WITNESS: Not that I know of.
 7
            don't be on social media like that, Man,
            so, yeah, I mean --
 8
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Me either.
10
                  I ain't got time for it.
11
                  So what tow business did you start working
12
      for in 2009?
13
                 Auto Access.
            Α
14
                  How did you learn about that job?
15
                  Driving past, stopped in, seen tow trucks
16
      in the driveway.
17
                  Who was your manager at Auto Access
            Q
18
      Towing?
19
                  Robert Glover.
            Α
20
            Q
                  Who was your manager at A Tow?
21
                  A couple of managers. It's a family
22
      business.
                 Paige Porter and David Porter.
23
                  Who owned Auto Access Towing?
24
                  Well, I guess, Robert Glover, and him and
25
      his brother, Ed Glover.
```

```
1
                  And how long did you stay at Auto Access
            Q
 2
      Towing?
 3
                 About a year and a half, almost about two
      years.
 5
                  What year did you leave?
                  I left like -- like two thousand -- end of
 6
            Α
 7
      2010, right before 2011. Yeah, that's right.
 8
                  And how were you compensated there?
            Q
            Α
                  Commission.
10
                  How much?
11
            Α
                  Like 28 percent.
12
            0
                 And what kind of customers did you serve
13
      there?
14
                  Like insurance car breakdowns, roadside.
15
                  Do you know any insurance companies that
16
      you were servicing?
17
                  It's like Allstate, State Farm, Cross
            A
18
      Country, USAA.
19
                  Did you ever do work for private
20
      individuals while at Auto Access?
                  If the boss asked me.
21
            Α
22
                  How about at A Tow?
23
            Α
                  If the boss asked me.
2.4
                  Did you punch a clock at Auto Access?
25
                  No. That's private owned.
            Α
```

```
1
                  You said it's private owned?
 2
                  Like family. You just, I'm here. And
 3
      then most of the time, I kept my truck.
                  What about at A Tow, were you allowed to
 4
            Q
      keep the truck at A Tow?
 5
                  No. Only if they had told me to, which
 6
 7
      was about once, maybe twice, if I had to work late.
 8
                  And did you punch a clock?
            Q
            Α
                  Yes.
10
                  What were your hours?
11
            Α
                  Seven to seven.
12
            Q
                  a.m. or p.m.?
13
            Α
                  a.m. to p.m.
14
                  Why did you leave Auto Access?
            Q
15
                  A better opportunity. My -- started
16
      working with J&J Towing.
17
                  What years did you work at J&J?
            Q
18
            Α
                  I want to say 2010 to like 2013.
19
                  How were you compensated there?
            Q
20
            Α
                  I was paid.
21
                  You were paid a wage?
            0
22
            Α
                  Yeah, you can call it wage. It's
23
      basically the -- it was my niece step daddy, I helped
24
      him. I'll say about a hundred dollars a day just to
25
      look out for him.
```

```
1
                  Did they provide you with a truck?
            Q
 2
            Α
                  Yes.
 3
                  Did you have to be there at a certain
            Q
      time?
 4
 5
            Α
                  No.
 6
            Q
                  Were you on call?
 7
                  Basically.
            Α
 8
                  Who would call you?
            Q
            Α
                  The owner of the truck.
10
                  How many -- what's the maximum amount of
11
      tows you did in a day for J&J?
12
                 About five, six.
            Α
13
                  Were you still paid a hundred dollars on
14
      those days?
15
              Just to look out for him. Man, I wasn't
16
      trying -- he just told me he'd throw me something.
17
      And I was really teaching him how to drive -- how to
18
      operate his truck.
19
                  What was his name?
            Q
20
                  John Arnold.
            Α
21
                 So he'd ride with you?
            0
                  Yeah. I mean, yes. I'm sorry. I said
22
            Α
23
      "yeah." I meant "yes."
24
              Did you show him how to do anything else
25
      automotive?
```

```
1
                  No. Basically he showed me. He was a
            Α
 2
      mechanic.
 3
                  What did he show you?
                  Whatever I don't know on fixing a car,
 4
      whatever I missed or whatever I don't like to do.
 5
 6
                  Can you name some examples?
 7
            Α
                  Yeah. I hate drum brakes.
                  Anything else?
 8
            Q
            Α
                  (Witness nods head.)
10
                  MR. BENJAMIN: You have to give a
11
            verbal response.
12
                  THE WITNESS: No. Sorry.
13
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) What was your next job?
            Q
14
                  Ideal Towing.
            Α
15
                  Why did you leave J&J?
            Q
16
                  Because mission accomplished. He know how
17
      to run his truck, and then he eventually sold it.
18
      So, I guess the company sold out, whatever, went out
19
      of business.
20
            Q
                  And what years did you work at Ideal
21
      Towing?
22
                  2014 to 2015.
            Α
23
            Q
                  What month did you start in 2014?
24
                  In Mar -- April, March. Sometime like
            Α
25
      that.
```

```
1
                  In what month did you leave?
            Q
 2
            Α
                  February 2015.
 3
                  What were your duties at Ideal Towing?
            Q
                  Roadside, operating tow truck, everything
 4
            Α
 5
      that comes with roadside, jump off, lockouts.
                  Would you call that light service?
 6
 7
                  Both, yeah. I mean, but I wasn't the
            Α
 8
      light service dude there. Light service is a
 9
      different side.
10
                  Where did you work after Ideal Towing?
11
            Α
                  Toys R' Us.
12
                  And what -- when did you work there?
            0
13
                  Two thousand -- I started November 2015.
            Α
14
      Yeah, November 2015 to March 2016.
15
                  And then where?
16
                  I started working for Jobs 1 Security at
17
      Top Golf Midtown.
                  What's the name of the security company?
18
            0
19
                  Jobs 1. That's numeric one.
            Α
20
            Q
                  And when did you work there?
21
                  March 2016 to, I'll say, June 2016.
            Α
22
                  And where did you work after that?
23
            Α
                  Right back at towing.
2.4
                  At what company?
25
                  Bravo.
            Α
```

1	Q	What years did you work there?
2	А	2016.
3	Q	Do you know when you started?
4	A	June 2016.
5	Q	And what year did you end?
6	A	November 2016.
7	Q	And why did you leave?
8	A	Better job opportunity, and my mom passed.
9	Q	What were your hours at Bravo Towing?
10	А	11 to 11.
11	Q	a.m. or p.m.?
12	А	a.m. to p.m.
13		MR. BENJAMIN: Do you want to take a
14	short	break or are you okay?
15		THE WITNESS: I'm okay.
16	Q	(By Mr. Mahoney) How were you compensated?
17	A	30 percent. Then I got a raise a couple
18	of months a	fter to 35.
19	Q	And what were your duties?
20	A	Roadside AAA.
21	Q	Light service and towing?
22	A	Some, yeah. Basically, light towing.
23	Q	Did you punch a clock?
24	А	Yes.
25	Q	Did you have a designated area?

Northeast, northwest, north Atlanta, 1 Α 2 downtown Decatur. 3 Did you have any down time between your Q 4 tow jobs? I guess in between calls maybe, or maybe a 5 6 couple of minutes if you get that, if you're lucky. 7 If you're not backed up or a lot of breakdowns. It varies. 8 And did you park the truck during your 0 10 down time? 11 Α Up under a shade tree where I get some 12 sleep, I guess. Or just to cool off until I get my next call or just put it in park wherever you at. 13 14 What about at A Tow? 15 Α Huh? 16 Did you have down time between jobs? Just like a few min -- a couple of minutes 17 Α 18 in between calls that you might be lucky to get if 19 it's not another call. Can't really say. 20 At A Tow, between jobs, did you park the Q 21 truck? 22 Not like -- park the truck how? Like... Α 23 Q What did you do between tow jobs at A Tow? 24 Α Step out, stretch my legs. 25 Were you required to return to the parking Q

```
1
      lot?
 2
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Between jobs or at
 3
            the end of the day?
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Between jobs.
            Q
 5
                  Which parking lot?
            Α
 6
                  A Tow's.
            0
 7
                  Yeah, because I had to come back to bring
            Α
      their truck back.
 8
                  Between jobs?
            Q
10
                  Between jobs, no, except for when I'm
11
      bringing it to impound.
12
                  Explain that.
13
                  We had police contracts. So whenever the
14
      police impound the car, we come and get it and we
15
      take it to the lot.
16
                  When you started working at A Tow, did you
17
      understand the difference between being paid hourly
18
      and being paid a commission?
19
                  A Tow is my first time ever being paid
20
      commission.
21
                  Did you understand the difference whether
22
      you started working for auto accidents in 2009?
23
                  Yeah, at the time I did the job.
2.4
                  What was your reason for leaving Ideal
25
      Towing?
```

```
I was switched over to the other company.
1
2
                  At Ideal Towing, were you ever given
 3
      business cards?
                  Theirs. My name wasn't on them, but it
 4
      was a spot that say, I'm your driver, Carl, that
5
6
      serviced you or something, or whoever your name is,
7
      you just write it in.
                 So there was a blank space for your name?
8
9
            Α
                  Yeah. So if they want to call and give
10
      you, I guess, good comments or whatever.
11
                  Was there any other space for you to fill
12
      in other of your personal information?
13
                  I don't know. I doubt.
            Α
14
                  Did it have the company's phone number on
            0
      it?
15
16
                  The company's phone number? Yes.
            Α
17
                  Did it have the company's address on it?
            Q
18
                  I quess, yes.
            Α
19
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Don't speculate.
20
                  THE WITNESS: I mean --
21
                  MR. BENJAMIN: If you know, answer
22
23
                  THE WITNESS: I don't recall.
24
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) You don't know if it had
25
      the address on it?
```

```
1
                  No. I don't -- I don't know.
            Α
 2
                  How long have you been A TOW truck driver,
 3
      total?
                  I started in 2006 all the way 'till now.
 4
            Α
 5
                  So how many years?
            Q
 6
            Α
                  11.
 7
                  When you started working for Auto Access,
            0
 8
      did you have all the skills you needed to perform tow
 9
      truck services?
10
            Α
                  Yes.
11
                  What did those skills consist of?
            0
12
                  Operating a truck, road --
            Α
13
                  What does op -- I'm sorry. Finish.
            Q
14
                  Yeah, operating a truck, roadside,
            Α
      driving.
15
16
                  Does driving a tow truck require a
17
      different level of skill than driving a regular
      truck?
18
19
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
20
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah.
21
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Explain.
            Q
22
            Α
                  I guess, yeah, if you're not on the brakes
23
      right, you're going to have an accident or if you
24
      miscalculate turns. Yeah. It's not like driving a
25
      regular car.
```

What's the process that goes into loading 1 2 a car onto a tow truck, from start to finish? 3 View your surroundings, check out your car, check out the damages, let the bed down all the 4 5 way to the ground, hook the car up, put it onto the 6 bed, strap it down, put your bed back up, make sure 7 everything is tight before you pull off. Also, put a safety chain on. 8 About how long does it take to do that Q 10 process? 11 Α Depends on the situation. 5 to 10 12 minutes. What can make it take more than 10 13 Q 14 minutes? Car not sitting at a little angle that you 15 16 can just back straight up to it, or car's down in a 17 ditch and you got to work it out, or a car be upside 18 down and you got to roll it back over. 19 How do you work a car out of a ditch? Q 20 Α Winching. 21 Does it require any tools to do that? 22 Chains, J-Hooks, and your cable, and the 23 power of the truck. 24 Q Can you describe the process of doing 25 that?

Yeah. Take your D chain, release the 1 A 2 winch, pull your rope all the way to the car. Which 3 process you won't? The rollover or just to pull out the ditch? Both. First start with pulling out the 5 6 ditch. 7 Car just sitting up, you just hook up to the frame holes and let the winch pull it on out. 8 0 Are the frame holes on the same place on 10 different types of vehicles? 11 Now you got some cars that don't got them. 12 What do you do in that situation? You use the tow hooks, you use the tow --13 Α 14 your tow bar that goes with that car that you screw on the bumper. Most of the time those are the luxury 15 16 vehicles. Do luxury vehicles sometimes take a longer 17 18 time to tow -- I mean, to hook up to the tow truck 19 than 10 minutes? 20 Α I mean, if you want to be safe, yeah. Not 21 really, because it's the same thing. 22 What if they're low to the ground like a 23 Maserati or Ferarri? 2.4 A Oh, yeah, then you got to do a little

extra. Throw some boards down.

25

Can you explain that process? 1 Q 2 Α Making a ramp. 3 Can you explain the rollover process? The rollover process, you back up to the 4 Α -- scope out scenario, back up to the car, pull your 5 winch cable across the vehicle. Hook it to the frame 6 7 hose, pull, and it will roll over to the truck. 8 Is it possible to damage the car if one of Q 9 these steps isn't done right in the rollover process? 10 Rollover process, it's already damaged. 11 When did you learn these skills? 12 2006. Α 13 You learned some mechanic skills at some 14 point, correct? 15 Α Correct. 16 When did you learn those skills? When I was a teenager, like 17, 18 from my 17 Α 18 uncle. 19 Do you know how to change oil? Q 20 Yep. Yes. I'm sorry. Α 21 Saying yeah is a verbal answer so it can 22 be taken down. As long as you're not nodding or 23 shaking your head. 2.4 Α Yes, sir. 25 What other mechanic skills did you learn? 0

```
Tune ups, brakes, recharge the AC, fixing
 1
      your heater. Basically routine maintenance.
 2
                Have you ever performed any of these
 3
      services for friends?
 5
           Α
                 Yes.
 6
           Q
                 Family?
 7
           Α
                 Yes.
 8
              How about other individuals that have
      asked for it?
              I mean, not everybody. But I mean, as far
10
      as friends and family, yeah. Sometimes I might being
11
12
      riding with them on my way home. Other times, I
13
      don't have time.
14
                 When is the last time you did some
15
      maintenance on a car that wasn't your own?
16
           Α
                 That wasn't my own?
17
                 Yes.
           Q
18
           Α
                 Last week.
19
                 Did you do any maintenance in 2016?
           Q
20
                 No --
           Α
21
                  MR. BENJAMIN: On cars that wasn't
22
           his own?
23
               (By Mr. Mahoney) On a car that wasn't your
24
      own?
25
           Α
                 Yeah.
```

1	Q 2015?
2	A Yeah.
3	Q 2014?
4	A Yes.
5	Q 2013?
6	A Yes.
7	Q How about your own car?
8	A Of course. I yeah, routine maintenance
9	every three months, every year. And of course
10	whenever something happened out the blue.
11	Q Have you ever charged your friends for
12	performing mechanic services?
13	A No. I just tell them to just throw me
14	something. I do it out the goodness of my heart.
15	Q When you say throw you something, that's
16	money, correct?
17	A Yeah. Basically a tip.
18	Q How about for family?
19	A A tip so I can get something to eat. I
20	got kids to feed. I mean, I don't run it like a
21	business, if that's what you're trying to say.
22	Q So family will tip you for the maintenance
23	that you do?
24	A I mean, yeah. Tip me or you know, they
25	pay me for my work, you know. If the shop was going

to charge them \$400, and then they pull up and I hear your car is just making all types of noise and I know you got kids, I don't want my little cousins and my niece and my nephew in there with you riding with that noise. So, I go ahead and I do it, because they know they got to pay \$400, they go, like, here, Man, just take this hundred.

Q What's the most you've been paid for performing maintenance on a car, other than your own?

A Roughly, a hundred to a hundred and twenty five, depend on the services.

Q Is there any difference in how you're paid by friends versus family?

A No, because most of my friends are like my family.

Q How about individuals that aren't friends and family?

A If I don't know you, I'm not going to do it for free, unless it depends on what it is. If it's something I can just put together real quick, then here, there you go. Get out the street.

Q Have you ever charged an individual that wasn't a friend or family member more than \$125 for a maintenance?

A No.

2.4

Have you ever performed tow services for 1 Q friends? 2 3 Α If I call it into the shop. How about family? If I call it into the shop. 5 Α 6 Were you ever allowed to keep the truck at 7 Ideal Towing after hours? If I work extra late, yeah. And then plus 8 I stayed where I was zoned, so there would be a truck 10 out there when the shift starts for me, every now and 11 then. But you have to bring it to the yard most of 12 the time. But you had to get permission before you 13 could do that. 14 And during those instances when you kept 15 the truck, did you park it at your house? 16 I had to go to sleep, of course. 17 What was your designated area when you 18 worked at Ideal Towing? 19 Northeast Atlanta all the way down to 20 Decatur before you get to like Lithonia. 21 So at the edge of Lithonia? 0 22 I think it stopped before that though. 23 was kind of big at first when I was there. 2.4 Where did you live at the time you were 25 working at Ideal Towing?

1 Α In Decatur. 2 Was your house in a designated area? 3 Yeah, I guess. Close to the borderline. Α Can you name someone that you performed Q mechanic services for? 5 6 Α During which time? 7 2016. 0 My best friend, Al Ranson. 8 Α 0 His last name is Ranson. What's his first 10 name? Al. 11 Α 12 And how much did he pay you for the maintenance? 13 14 Nothing. Can you name someone that paid you for 15 16 maintenance in 2105? 17 No, because I took some time off from work 18 and only people's cars. People don't like to pay 19 these days. You can fix their car and they take off 20 on you. So, I didn't fix too many people's car they 21 wasn't family in '15 and '16. I know those right 22 there, those folks you have now, I stay in touch with 23 all of them. 24 Can you think of someone's name in 2015 25 who you performed maintenance for that failed to pay

```
1
      you?
 2
                  Someone that didn't pay me or that paid me
 3
      -- didn't pay?
                  First someone that didn't pay you.
                  Didn't pay me?
 5
            Α
 6
                  That was supposed to.
            Q
 7
                  No. Never let it get that far.
            Α
                  How about someone that did pay you?
 8
            Q
            Α
                  Paul Nurse.
10
                  How do you spell his last name?
11
            Α
                  N-u-r-s-e.
12
            Q
                  How much did he pay?
13
                  $30.
            Α
14
                  Do you know what month that occurred?
            Q
15
            Α
                  No.
16
                  Do you know what time it occurred?
17
                  No.
            Α
18
                  Did you perform tow -- I mean maintenance
            0
19
      for other people in 2015?
20
                  No. Not that I can recall.
21
                  So you could have done maintenance for
22
      someone in 2015, but you don't remember right now?
23
                  No. It's like years ago, you know. You
24
      busting my brain now.
25
                  I promise I'm not trying to trick you.
```

```
1
            Α
                  It's all good.
                  Do you remember how many people you
 2
      performed maintenance for in 2014?
 3
                  No.
 4
            Α
 5
                  Could you give me an estimate if I gave
 6
      you a number?
 7
                  Like?
            Α
 8
            Q
                  Less than 50?
 9
            Α
                  Yeah. Way less than 50.
10
                  More than five?
            Q
11
            Α
                  Probably.
12
            Q
                  Less than 25?
13
            Α
                  (Witness nods head.)
14
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Verbal response.
15
                  THE WITNESS: Yes.
16
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Did you perform any of
17
      this maintenance at night?
18
            Α
                  No.
19
                  Is lighting important for doing
20
      maintenance?
21
            Α
              It is.
22
                  Did you have a garage that you did this
23
      maintenance in?
2.4
            Α
                  No.
25
                  What were your days off at Ideal Towing?
```

```
1
                  I guess -- I know Thursday was one of
 2
      them. I think I picked Sunday and I asked for a
 3
      second day.
                  When did you ask for the second day?
                  Probably about five to six months after I
 5
            Α
 6
      was there.
 7
                 Did your designated area change while you
      worked at Ideal Towing at any time?
 8
                  No. Not that I recall anyway.
10
                  Were there any other changes to your days
11
      off while you worked at Ideal Towing?
12
            Α
                  No.
13
                  Do you know how much money you were paid
      in 2014 for maintenance?
14
15
            Α
                  No.
16
                  If I gave you a number, could you tell me
      if it was or more or less than that number?
17
18
            Α
                  Go ahead.
19
                  Less than 10,000?
            Q
20
            Α
                  Man, yeah.
21
                  More than $500?
            0
22
            Α
                  No.
23
            Q
                  More than $50?
24
                  I'll say -- I'll say right there.
            Α
25
                  Total or per person?
            Q
```

```
Probably per person, but it was like I do
 1
            Α
      quick maintenance so ain't nothing really quick going
 2
 3
      to cost more than $250.
 4
            Q
                  I got you --
                  So a tune up, I might charge you $50 to
 5
      put your spark plugs in, you know. Things like that.
 6
 7
                  Right. Are there any types of vehicles
      that you can't perform maintenance on?
 8
 9
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
10
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah.
11
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Can you name a type of
12
      car that you can't perform maintenance on?
13
                  I'm not going to touch a Maserati.
            Α
14
                  How about BMWs?
            0
15
                  Not going to mess with that either.
            Α
16
                  How about a Lexus?
17
                  Unless it was a light bulb, I'm not going
            Α
      to mess with that either.
18
19
                  So not luxury cars?
            Q
20
                  No. I don't too much mess with those.
            Α
21
                  You can do maintenance on a truck though,
22
      right?
23
            Α
                  Which truck.
2.4
            Q
                  A regular pickup truck?
25
                  Gasoline or diesel?
            Α
```

```
1
            Q
                  You tell me.
 2
            Α
                  I can't do diesel. I can work on gasoline
 3
      engines.
                  How about motorcycles?
 4
            Α
                  No.
 5
 6
                  Between 2006 and the present, have you
 7
      ever towed a car for a friend?
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Asked and
 8
            answered.
10
                  THE WITNESS: What do you mean?
11
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Have you ever towed a --
12
      towed a car for a friend?
13
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Same objection.
14
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Between 2006 and present.
            Q
15
                  Between 2006 and now, probably yes.
16
                  Were any of those tows done outside of one
      of the companies you worked for?
17
                  It was done when I was with J&J.
18
            Α
19
                  Friends as well?
            Q
20
                  Yes. He knew about it.
            Α
21
                  How about other individuals?
            0
22
                  If they know about me, I'll tow it.
            Α
23
                  What if an individual saw you and they're
24
      in some kind of distress, they could ask you?
25
            Α
                  Yes.
```

```
1
              How much were you paid by these
      individuals to tow?
 2
 3
                 Whatever the company told me to charge
      them.
                  At J&J?
 5
            Q
 6
            Α
                  Whatever he told me to charge them.
 7
                  How did they pay you?
            Q
 8
                  Cash.
            Α
            Q
                  Ever credit cards?
10
                  No.
            Α
11
            Q
                  Ever by check?
12
            Α
                  No.
13
                  Did you retain any of the cash that you
14
      got from the customer?
15
               Yeah, the ones that almost split from me.
16
      I never took any cash. I don't play with nobody's
17
      money.
18
                  Have you ever owned your own tow truck?
            0
19
            Α
                  No.
20
            Q
                  Have you ever rented a tow truck?
21
                  No.
            Α
22
                  Have you ever borrowed a tow truck?
23
                  I guess from the job to do their work, if
24
      you consider that.
25
                 Have you ever been lent a tow truck?
```

```
From the job if they lent it to me to do
 1
 2
      their work.
 3
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Sometime in the next
            few minutes, can we take a short restroom
           break?
 5
 6
                  MR. MAHONEY: Now is a good time.
 7
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Okay.
                  (Recess was taken.)
 8
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Does damage sometimes
10
      occur to vehicles that are brought onto the tow
11
      truck?
12
                  If they're improperly hooked or the
13
      clearance too low.
14
               Has that ever happened when you hooked up
15
      a car?
                  No. Not that I recall.
16
17
                  If you were to damage a car while you were
18
      hooking it up, who would pay for that?
19
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
20
           Are you also speaking Ideal or anyplace?
21
                  MR. MAHONEY: I'm talking about in
22
           general.
23
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Object to form. You
24
           can answer if you can.
25
                  THE WITNESS: The company usually
```

```
1
           pays for it. They take it out your check.
2
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) So the money for the
 3
      damage comes from your money?
                  Basically. Well, it depends on how much
 4
      the damage is. If it's not that much, it's not going
5
6
      to make a big deal.
7
                  At Ideal, was damage done to cars while
      hooking -- hooking it up to the tow truck, did that
8
9
      also come out of your money?
10
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
11
                  THE WITNESS: After it's paid for.
12
           Depends on what it is, then they get their
13
           money back.
14
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) But it comes out of your
15
      money?
16
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Assuming
17
           it happened.
18
                  THE WITNESS: I mean, what is --
19
           it's took out your check, so.
20
            Q
                 (By Mr. Mahoney) And I'm not saying that
21
      this happened today specifically, but you would be
22
      responsible for it.
23
                  I mean, from experience of ever having
      somebody -- 11 years like once or twice and something
24
25
      happened, yeah, they -- my company paid for it,
```

```
whatever it was. Most of the time it wasn't no more
 1
 2
      than about 3 or $400, so eventually, they'll take a
 3
      little bit out my check, like, ask me what I -- can I
      afford $50 a week or whatever out my check, or a
 4
 5
      hundred dollars a check until it's paid off.
 6
                  Is that a risk that comes with operating a
 7
      tow truck?
 8
            Α
                 Yes.
                  What was your routine on a work day as a
10
      tow driver?
11
              Come in, pretrip your truck, make sure you
12
      got everything, go out to the zone.
13
                  What's everything?
            Q
14
                  Equipment.
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Is your question for
15
16
            Ideal?
                  MR. MAHONEY: Not at this time.
17
18
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Okay. In general as
19
            a tow truck driver.
20
                  THE WITNESS: In general, a tow
21
           truck driver. Equipment.
22
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) What kind of equipment?
23
                  Chains, straps, make sure the light
      working, make sure all your beacons work, make sure
24
25
      you're DOT ready.
```

```
1
                  What is DOT ready?
 2
                  Everything that goes over the DOT
      inspection. Always use your flashers and your
 3
      emergency triangles.
 4
                  What does DOT stand for?
 5
 6
            Α
                  Department of Transportation.
 7
                  And is that state department of
            0
      transportation or federal?
 8
 9
            Α
                  Well, Georgia is a state. State, I guess.
10
                  And I don't want you to have to speculate.
11
            Α
                  Okay.
12
                  So if you do know if it's state, federal
            Q
13
      or both, please answer the question --
14
                  Well, first of all, I say state because
15
      from way I see, it's Georgia Department of Public
16
      Safety. So I say state.
17
                  So you see the Georgia Department of
      Public Safety?
18
19
                  Uh-huh. Yes, sir.
            Α
20
            Q
                  All right. And you also see Department of
21
      Transportation?
22
            Α
                  Yes, sir.
23
                  Have you ever towed a vehicle out of
24
      state?
25
            Α
                  Yes.
```

```
Q
                  Where?
 1
                  Alabama, South Carolina.
 2
            Α
 3
                  How about Tennessee?
            Q
                  Are you talking about for Ideal?
            Α
                  Yes. So, let me go back.
 5
            Q
 6
                  For Ideal, did you ever tow a vehicle out
 7
      of state?
 8
                  Probably South Carolina or Alabama.
            Α
            0
                  How about --
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Do you know?
10
11
                  THE WITNESS: I haven't been out --
12
            I haven't been out no more than once or
13
            twice. So I'll say Alabama once, South
14
            Carolina once.
15
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) How about Tennessee?
            Q
16
            Α
                  No.
17
                  North Carolina?
            0
18
                  Not for Ideal, no.
            Α
19
                  Did the customer travel with you when you
20
      went out of state?
                  Sometimes.
21
            Α
22
                  Are there safety protocols that relate to
23
      the customer riding with you?
2.4
                  Well, yeah.
            Α
25
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
```

```
1
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Name them, please.
 2
                 No more occupants than your vehicle can
 3
      withstand. So like normally that's one or two.
      Everybody got to have on their seatbelts. Usually --
 4
      sometimes I ride by myself and they drive behind me.
 5
 6
                  And how do you know about those safety
 7
      protocols?
                  I mean, that's just driving period.
 8
            Q
                  Okay.
10
                  That's -- I'm sorry. I'm not trying to be
11
      funny, I'm just saying...
12
                 I mean, is it just following the law
      generally, or is it something that you have to know
13
14
      as a tow driver?
               No, you have to follow the laws. The law
15
16
      is law.
17
                  Is there any regulation for occupancy, for
18
      instance, that relates to you as a tow driver, do you
19
      know -- do you know?
20
                 If it's not a customer, then ain't nobody
21
      with you.
22
                  But you can carry up to two customers with
23
      you?
24
            Α
                  If you have enough seats for that.
25
                  And who told you that?
            Q
```

```
1
                  AAA. If you got enough seats for it, and
            Α
      they ask. You tow ride got -- two members riding,
2
 3
      and say okay. Can you carry them, yeah. Do you have
      room, yes.
5
                  After you ensure that you're DOT ready,
6
      what happens next?
7
                  You go to the zone, start your work day.
            Α
                  When do you eat breakfast?
8
            Q
9
            Α
                  Whenever I get a chance and get lucky to
10
      stop long enough.
11
                  What about lunch?
            0
12
            Α
                  Whenever you get a chance to stop long
13
      enough.
14
                  How about dinner?
            0
15
            Α
                  Maybe when you get off.
16
                  Is there any rule against eating when
      you're waiting for calls?
17
18
                  MR. BENJAMIN: For which employer?
19
            Is it a law? What are you asking?
20
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) When you worked for Ideal
21
      Towing, was there any rule against eating while you
22
      were waiting for calls?
23
                  No. Not that I know of.
24
                  Was there a rule against running an errand
25
      while you were waiting for calls?
```

```
1
                  Yeah. You got to get permission and make
            Α
      sure it's okay. That's with any job.
 2
                  Is that a rule written down somewhere?
 3
                  Not really. It's just -- yeah, don't go
 4
 5
      out the zone.
                  What if you could accomplish the errand
 6
 7
      within the zone, could you do that?
 8
            A
                  I'll ask.
 9
                  What if you needed to stop at the bank and
            Q
10
      you didn't get a call for an hour, could you do that?
11
                  Yeah, if it's in the zone. You can stop
12
      anywhere.
13
                 Could you take a nap?
14
                  Yeah, long as you don't miss that call
15
      when it come through.
16
                  Did you always remain sober --
17
            Α
                 Yes.
18
                  -- while you were waiting for calls at
19
      Ideal Towing?
20
            Α
                  Yes.
21
                  As long as you were sober and could
22
      respond to a call, could you do whatever you wanted?
23
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
2.4
                  THE WITNESS: I mean, I'm always
25
           going to remain sober. I'm not going to
```

```
drive a truck under the influence, because
 1
 2
            if anything happen, I go to prison.
 3
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Did you always remain
      sober and ready for a call?
 4
 5
                  Long as I was on shift.
 6
                  Did you ever go home while you were
 7
      waiting for calls?
                 Yeah, to use the bathroom.
 8
                  Did you ever eat lunch at home? For
            Q
10
      instance, did you have food at home?
11
                  No. I just leave, eat in the truck.
12
                  Could you eat your lunch in the driveway
      of your house while you were waiting?
13
14
                  If it's just a sandwich, yeah, I can smash
      it back and not have to pull it out.
15
16
                 Could you throw clothes in the dryer while
      you're at home?
17
                  I wouldn't do that.
18
19
                  Could you warm up your lunch in the
20
      microwave or the oven?
21
                 Couple of minutes, yeah.
            Α
22
                  What would you do while you're waiting on
23
      the call and your food is warming up?
2.4
                  If that tablet go off, I got to be ready
           Α
25
      to go, so I might not get that food. I'm praying on
```

```
1
      those couple of minutes.
 2
                  I understand that, but if you don't get a
 3
      call and you're waiting on your food to warm up, what
      would you do?
 4
 5
                  I'm going to eat.
 6
                  Could you watch TV while you're waiting
 7
      for the food to warm up?
 8
                  If I'm looking at it going out the door.
            Α
 9
            Q
                  There's no rule against that, is there?
10
                   I guess, no sitting around. I don't know.
11
      You can watch TV anywhere.
12
                  On your cell phone for instance?
13
                  True.
            Α
14
                   Is there any rule against using your cell
      phone while you're waiting on calls?
15
16
            Α
                  Not while you're waiting on calls.
17
                  Do you like any sports?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Yes.
19
                  How about football?
            Q
20
            Α
                  Yes.
21
                  How about college football?
            Q
22
            Α
                  Yes.
23
            Q
                  What's your favorite team?
24
            Α
                  For -- college.
25
                  Okay. Do you ever listen to college
            0
```

```
football in the radio -- on the radio?
 1
 2
                 Occasionally.
 3
                  If you're in the tow truck?
                  Occasionally, if they playing -- if
 4
      whoever I like playing.
 5
 6
                  Did you ever do that while waiting for a
 7
      call?
 8
              Of course. Probably.
            Α
            Q
                  What's the least amount of tows you did in
10
      a day for Ideal Towing?
11
                  That could vary. Two, between two to
           А
12
      four.
13
                 And would you clock out if you only had
            Q
14
      two jobs and it was only 3:00?
15
                  What you mean two jobs?
16
                  If you only did two tow jobs --
17
            Α
                  Okay.
18
                  -- for the whole day between seven and
19
      three, would you clock out at three?
20
            Α
                  No.
21
                  Do you ever clock out early because you're
22
      not getting enough jobs?
23
                  No, unless they ask do I want to go home.
24
                  Do you ever leave the zone while
25
      performing a tow job?
```

```
1
                  While performing a tow job?
            Α
 2
                  Yes.
                  If it's -- the destination that it's going
 3
      is out the zone, yes. We pick up in the zone. After
 4
 5
      we pick up, we take off and go anywhere you need to.
 6
                  Do you sometimes pick up jobs that are
 7
      outside of your zone?
 8
                  If AAA call the company and the company
 9
      say yeah. And that's only if you close by that area.
10
                 What if you see a -- an individual in
11
      distress while you're returning to the zone from
12
      outside the zone, can they hail you down?
13
              Can they hail me down? What you mean,
            Α
14
      just stop me?
15
                  Just wave to you.
            Q
16
            Α
                  They can. It don't mean I'm going to
17
      stop.
18
                  Have you ever stopped?
            Q
19
                  Have I ever?
            Α
20
            Q
                  Yes.
                  MR. BENJAMIN: At Ideal or ever?
21
22
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) At Ideal.
            Q
23
            Α
                  At ideal?
24
                  Yes.
25
                  No. We had too much going on.
            Α
```

```
1
                  Did you punch a clock at Ideal?
            Q
                  Yeah.
 2
            Α
                  Did you do time sheets at Ideal?
 3
            Q
                  No. We did time cards.
 4
            Α
 5
                  Did you log into any type of --
            Q
                  We had logs --
 6
            Α
 7
                  -- log --
            0
 8
                  Yeah, we had log sheets for the tows.
            Α
                  So you had log sheets of the tows, but did
            Q
10
      you log into any electronic devices?
11
            Α
                  Yes.
12
                  What did you log into?
            Q
13
                  D3 ME tablet.
            Α
14
                  Did you ever use a DDS at Ideal Towing?
15
                  The phone, yeah. But that was like
            Α
16
      probably for like about a month or so.
17
                  How does it work?
            Q
18
                  Basically I -- I hear a chirp, that --
19
      talking about the DS, the little chirp, the little
20
      digital chirp?
21
                  Is that a device that's in the truck?
            0
22
                  It's like a walkie-talkie.
            Α
23
                  Was there any type of electronic system
24
      mounted in the truck with a GPS?
25
            Α
                  No. Not that I remember.
```

```
1
                  So you said you had some sort of
 2
      walkie-talkie that you kept with you while you were
 3
      working at Ideal?
                  At first.
 4
 5
            Q
                  Okay.
 6
            Α
                  Then they upgraded us to the tablets.
 7
                  And what was the walkie-talkie called?
            0
 8
                  I guess just D-2 ME.
            Α
                  And it would let you know when there's a
            Q
      call coming in?
10
11
            Α
                  Yeah.
12
                  With an audio sound?
            Q
13
                  Yeah.
            Α
                  How are the drivers selected?
14
            Q
15
                  I don't know.
            Α
16
                  How about with the tablet?
            0
17
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
18
                  THE WITNESS:
                                 That's dispatch job.
19
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Dispatch from AAA?
            Q
20
                  It's from our office.
            Α
21
                  So dispatch from Ideal?
22
            Α
                   I don't know. That part, I don't care.
23
      just go through the channel.
2.4
                  If there's a closer driver to the call,
25
      would they be selected before you?
```

```
MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
 1
 2
                  THE WITNESS: Possibility.
 3
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) What would you expect?
            Q
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Calls for
            speculation. He says he doesn't know how
 5
 6
            they were selected.
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah. Most of the
            time, they say it's because whoever closer.
 8
            Sometimes you hear the one who closer might
10
            not have as much experience.
11
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) And you said "they say."
12
      Who says that?
13
            Α
                  Dispatch.
14
                  Is there any rule against visiting a
      friend if the friend was in a designated area and
15
16
      you're waiting for calls?
17
            Α
                  No.
18
                  Did you ever do that?
19
                  If I was riding by and I seen them, stop,
            Α
20
      hey, how you doing. Pull off.
21
                  Could you use that location as a waiting
22
      spot until your next call came?
23
                  I could.
2.4
                  Were you ever disciplined for napping
25
      while you were waiting on a call?
```

```
1
                  MR. BENJAMIN: At Ideal?
 2
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) At Ideal.
 3
            Α
                  No.
                  Weren't you supposed to fill out time
 4
            Q
      sheets while you worked at Ideal?
 5
                  Fill out?
 6
            Α
 7
            Q
                  Yes.
                  Put my name on it.
 8
            Α
            Q
                  Did you always do that?
10
                  Yeah. Unless you wanted somebody to run
11
      off with your money?
12
                  But you weren't paid hourly, were you?
13
            Α
                  No.
14
                  Did you sign any form of agreement to work
      with Ideal?
15
16
            Α
                  Of course, application.
17
                  Other than an application. An agreement?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Not that I recall. Only if they with the
19
      package.
20
                  What did you say?
21
                  I said only if they with the package, Man,
22
      to get the job, yeah.
23
                  Is there an option on the tablet to accept
24
      the job?
25
            Α
                  Yes.
```

```
Is there a function on the tablet to
 1
            Q
 2
      decline the job?
 3
           Α
                  Yes.
                  How would a non AAA individual request a
 4
      tow? Tell me the process from start to finish.
 5
 6
               I don't know. I guess they call AAA. I
 7
      don't know.
               Could they ask you for tow service?
 8
 9
                  They can, but I'm going to give you a --
10
      I'm going to tell you to call the number on the
11
      truck.
12
              Could you call the number on the truck on
      their behalf?
13
14
                  I don't need the tow.
                  So you never called the company to ask
15
16
      them --
                  I mean -- I mean, yeah, if the person
17
           Α
18
      don't have a phone or something, I call them, yeah,
19
      on my phone. And eventually I'm going to give them
20
      the phone, because they the one who needs the tow so
21
      they need to describe their car.
22
              And after you call the company, what
23
      happens?
               They will give you a yay or nay to do it
24
25
      and give you a price.
```

```
1
                  And if they approve it, you do the job?
            Q
 2
            Α
                  If they approve.
 3
                  And then what happens?
            Q
                  Go on about my business, back to the zone.
            Α
                  How is payment handled?
 5
            Q
                   Just cash. Call the office if it's a
 6
            Α
 7
      card.
                  What do you do with the cash?
 8
            Q
            Α
                  Bring it back to the job.
10
                  And you earn a percentage of that?
11
                  I guess, at the end of the week.
            Α
12
                  Was there a quota imposed by Ideal Towing
      on how many tows you had to perform in a day?
13
14
            Α
                  No.
                  How about in a week?
15
            Q
16
                  In a week, yeah, if you want to reach a
      bonus.
17
18
                  What was the number?
            0
19
                  I think you got to get like up to 40.
            Α
20
                  40 tows in a week?
            Q
21
                  Yeah. If you don't get over 40, they just
            Α
      start saying something.
22
23
                  Oh. So if you did less than 40, you would
24
      start talking to the owner?
25
                  Talk to for what? That's just what you
```

```
1
      done, that's what you done, I guess.
 2
                 You said there was a quota. Was that like
 3
      written out?
                  Well, it's not a quota that you got to --
 5
            Q
                  Okay.
 6
                  That you going to get fired if you don't
 7
      meet, I mean, because if don't nobody break down that
 8
      day, don't no cars get towed that day. You can't
 9
      fire me for that. That ain't my...
10
                  So when you testified that there was a
11
      number 40, 40 cars that had to be towed, that was
12
      just your -- what you believed was reasonable?
13
                  Yeah, that's -- that's -- it's like a
14
      milestone. I mean, that's the quota, and so you try
      to reach it to see if you get an extra dollar on your
15
16
      check.
17
                  That wasn't imposed by the company?
            Q
                  Huh?
18
            Α
19
                  That wasn't imposed by the company on you,
            Q
20
      was it?
21
                  It's on -- it's in the thing.
            Α
22
            Q
                  On what?
23
            Α
                  It was on the ap.
24
            Q
                  The ap?
25
                  Application.
            Α
```

1 Q The employment application?

A If you, yeah, tow this many cars, you know, in the -- yeah, the application. Or I was told anyway. So either way it go, both of them. Whatever I missed, somebody told me.

Q Okay.

A And I recall there was a supervisor saying to me, Hey, Man, do over 40 cars, Man, you see some extra money, Man, get some extra money. Get over 40, I hope it's my week.

Q So that sounds like that was an incentive to get over 40 to get more money versus something you would be disciplined for if you didn't get to 40. So explain that a little bit. Is it an incentive or was it a quota?

A It's like an incentive, I guess. If that's what you want to flip it, it was a incentive.

Q That's fine. That's what I was asking.

A It's not -- that's -- I don't -- I didn't get in trouble for not making 40.

Q Were -- oh, excuse me --

A Like if you get two and while everybody getting 20 something total, it's like hey, Man, what's going on.

Q Right. Was there instances when you could

```
1
      help a customer without towing their vehicle while
      working at Ideal?
 2
 3
                  Where I could help a customer?
            0
                  Yes.
                  Yeah, if it was just a wire, a cable
 5
            Α
 6
      loose.
 7
                 And there was no rule against you fixing
      the loose cable?
 8
               We get paid for pulling up. Well, the
10
      company do.
11
                 Was there any rule that prevented you from
12
      going under the hood of the vehicle?
13
                  If it's too much time consuming.
            Α
14
                  But was there any general rule that
      prohibited you from going under the hood of a vehicle
15
16
                  No, because the way it was, 9 times out of
17
            Α
      -- 9 times out of 10, it's up under the hood. Some
18
19
      cars, they're in the trunk or up under the back seat.
20
                  What if a customer was locked out?
            Q
21
                  Then I hope you got a unlock kit.
            Α
22
                  But you could help them?
            Q
23
            Α
                  If I got an unlock kit.
24
                  What if they need a tire changed?
            Q
25
                  If it's a jack on the truck, yeah, if
            Α
```

```
1
      that's what they send me for.
 2
                  If that's what Ideal sent you for?
 3
            Α
                  Yes.
                  What if they need a jump start?
 5
                  If Ideal said they need a jump start, you
            Α
 6
      going to go.
 7
                  Does Ideal have different departments for
            0
      light service versus towing?
 8
            Α
                  Well, Ideal is towing.
10
                  Ideal didn't do light service, did it?
11
            Α
                  Not really, but, I mean, I'm a tow truck.
12
      I can jump you off. I can -- I can do everything.
13
      The light service can't tow, so they say the little
14
      guys.
                  And you knew how to do light service prior
15
16
      to working for Ideal?
17
            Α
                  Yeah.
18
                  Were you required to have specific tools?
            0
19
                  MR. BENJAMIN: At Ideal?
20
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) At ideal.
21
                  At Ideal, a jump box.
            Α
22
                  How about a lockout kit?
23
            Α
                  Yeah.
2.4
                  What about a flashlight?
            Q
25
                  If you work at night. I mean, that's up
            Α
```

```
1
      to you if you want to see.
 2
                  Did you carry a flashlight with you?
 3
            Α
                 Of course.
                  Whose flashlight was it?
            Q
 5
                  Mines.
            Α
                  Brought from home?
 6
            Q
 7
                  Home, store.
            Α
 8
                  What other personal tools did you have
            Q
 9
      with you?
                 My flashlight, my jump box, my lockout
10
11
                 That's it.
      kit, GPS.
12
            0
                 You own the GPS?
13
            Α
                  Yes.
14
                  Did you prefer it over the one that was on
15
      the tablet?
                 Man, I don't want to use it. I want to
16
17
      see my calls. I ain't got time to be back and --
18
      that cause a wreck. Yeah, I preferred it over -- I
19
      preferred it over the tablet.
20
                 So it had audio directions?
            Q
21
                  Yeah, you know, the tablet don't just tell
22
      you turn left, turn right, step 1, 2 3 to 10, you
23
      know.
2.4
                 How about the jack?
25
            Α
                  What about it.
```

```
1
                  Did you own a jack?
            Q
 2
            Α
                  I didn't own a jack.
                  Do non AAA individuals ever request a tire
 3
            Q
      change, jump start or lockout assistance?
 4
 5
                  MR. BENJAMIN: At Ideal?
 6
                  THE WITNESS: Like at Ideal,
 7
            probably call Ideal for a tire change?
                                                      Ιs
 8
            that way you saying?
 9
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Yeah. Did non AAA
10
      individuals ever request a tire change at Ideal?
                  I mean, I guess.
11
            Α
12
                  Jump start?
            Q
13
                  Yeah.
            Α
14
                  Lockout assistance?
            Q
15
            Α
                  Yeah.
16
                  How did they pay for these?
            Q
17
                  I quess, cash or card.
            Α
18
                  Has your driver's license ever been
            0
19
      suspended?
20
                  Way back in 2003.
            Α
21
            0
                  Why?
22
                  I was on the way home from vacation and I
23
      had to be to work that night. And so I got caught
24
      for speeding. When I send my payment down for it, it
25
      had got down there a couple of days later. So they
```

```
1
      suspend my license for a couple of days.
2
                  Any other time?
 3
            Α
                  No.
                  When was it reinstated?
            0
5
                  Soon as the money got down there.
            Α
6
                  How did you learn about Ideal Towing?
            Q
7
                  Through a friend.
            Α
8
                  What was --
            Q
                  Also from being in the towing game.
            Α
10
                  What was the name of the friend?
11
            Α
                  Chicken Wing.
12
                  Do you know his full name?
13
                  No. Man, we always call him Chicken Wing.
            Α
14
                  How long have you known him?
15
                  I known Chicken Wing probably about --
16
      over 15 years, about 20 years.
17
                  What's his first name?
            Q
18
            Α
                  I guess Deo -- I think Deondre, something
19
      like that.
20
                  Is he a tow truck driver?
            Q
21
                  Yes.
            Α
22
                  Did he work at any of those tow truck
      businesses that you worked at?
23
2.4
            Α
                  Ideal. Only reason I got in the towing
25
      game.
```

1 Did he tell you that they were hiring? Q 2 Α Yeah. 3 Did he put in a word for you? Yeah. Most of the time, I ain't go down 4 Α 5 there because I was already working, so just one time. He was like, Man, I just called down there and 6 7 they told me to come on, come in for an interview. 8 But yeah, he put in a word for me. 9 0 With Michael James? 10 I guess. I don't know. I just know Kelly 11 told me to come down. 12 When did you meet Michael James. 13 I had to eventually meet Michael James Α 14 probably like the next week or so, a few days later. 15 And why did you have to meet Mike? 16 He's the owner of the company, one of 17 them. 18 Did Kelly tell you he's the owner of the 0 19 company? 20 Α Mike and Tishja. 21 Did Kelly tell you that? 0 22 Α He told me I had to meet the owners of the 23 company. 2.4 So Kelly told you you had to meet the 25 owner of the company?

I mean, yeah, you got to. I mean, you 1 2 want to know who's signing your checks, right? 3 That's why. 4 Did you meet Tishja at the same time that you met Mike? 5 6 Α No. 7 Were you hired before or after you met Mike? 8 Before. Mike had to make the -- Mike and 10 Tishja made the final say-sos. Kelly said everything 11 sounds good, she talk to them and then they give you 12 a call back. 13 And again, remember, you know, I'm not 14 asking you to speculate anything. So how do you know Tishja had to approve? 15 16 I don't know. I just know Tishja say she 17 the owner of the company, so -- and then they 18 married, their names on -- she sign the checks, she 19 do the accounting, they handle everything, so, yeah. 20 You know, and then she let you know, this our 21 company, you ain't fixin' to mess around in it. 22 So when you met Mike, did he tell you he 23 was the owner? He said Hi, I'm Mike, I'm the owner. 2.4 Α

And did he tell you that he was approving

25

```
you being hired?
1
                  He shook my hand, so --
2
            Α
 3
            Q
                  So he --
                  Told me to go ahead.
            Α
                  So he told you you were hired?
5
            Q
6
            Α
                  (Witness nods head.)
7
                  Tishja wasn't present then, was she?
            Q
                  No.
8
            Α
                  So how do you know Tishja approved it?
            Q
10
                  I don't actually know if she approved it.
11
      That's what I'm saying, but eventually, I guess, she
12
      the -- I don't know how -- who got power over who.
13
      Basically that's not my -- I just wanted you to know
14
      I wanted the job.
                  And Mike gave the job, correct?
15
            Q
16
            Α
                  I mean, they finalized it.
17
                  And Mike finalized it, correct?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Yeah, if he don't want you, you ain't
19
      working.
20
            Q
                  And Tishja wasn't present there when that
21
      happened?
22
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Asked and
23
            answered.
24
                  THE WITNESS: And you already asked
25
            that question.
```

```
(By Mr. Mahoney) And what was your answer,
 1
           Q
 2
      please.
 3
               Can you -- I didn't meet them at the same
      time, so of course, she wasn't there.
 4
 5
                 All right. And did Tishja handle clerical
 6
      duties in the office?
 7
           Α
                 Yeah.
                 And --
 8
           Q
           Α
                 When you go and get your check, that's who
10
      you see.
11
                And did Mike control the day-to-day
12
      operations of the business?
13
           A Yeah. If you messed up, he found out,
14
      you're in trouble.
15
              And why did you switch from wage jobs to
16
      commission-based pay?
17
              Actually, I don't know. I mean, a job is
18
      job to me. But then eventually I found out wage
19
      jobs, you get messed over more.
20
           Q
                 And why did you enter the tow business?
21
                 Because I love cars and I love towing.
22
                 Did you ever take time off while you
23
      worked at Ideal?
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Other than his
2.4
25
           scheduled days off?
```

```
MR. MAHONEY: Yes.
 1
                  THE WITNESS: If I was sick, if I
 2
 3
            had to go get one of my kids, emergency at
            home. I don't get sick like that.
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) How about holidays?
 5
            Q
 6
            Α
                  If that's my scheduled off day.
 7
                  How about Christmas?
            0
                  If I was scheduled to be off. Other than
 8
            Α
 9
      that, I'm working.
10
                  Could you request that holiday off?
11
                  You can request it, but that don't mean
12
      you going to get it.
13
                  Did you ever request a holiday off?
14
                  Valentine, probably -- but no, because I
      ain't end up being off on Valentine on that year, on
15
16
      that day. So, no, because I worked all the holidays.
17
                  How many sick days did you have?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Out of -- one, maybe two, I quess.
19
                  How many -- how much time off did you
            Q
20
      take?
21
                  Other than my scheduled off days, probably
            Α
22
      like one or two days if I was sick. But, none.
23
                  You said there were also emergencies that
24
      required you to ask for time off.
25
                  No. I mean, if my child get sick, I got
            Α
```

to go get my child. I can't leave them. 1 2 I understand. How many times did that 3 happen? I can't recall. My son got asthma. So 4 5 it's like right now, I can be sitting right here and if that call come, I'm out. I don't want -- I don't 6 7 want to be, but asthma you can't play with. And my 8 son done almost died. 9 Now, I understand you had some family 10 obligations that caused you to take time off or 11 change your schedule. I'm going to ask you about 12 that, so if you need a break or anything like that, 13 just let me know and that's fine. Okay? 14 All right. Tell me about your family obligations that 15 16 caused you to take time off. 17 MR. BENJAMIN: Like that actually 18 caused you to take time off at Ideal. 19 (By Mr. Mahoney) Other than your son 20 having asthma. 21 None. Usually I drop him off at home and 22 keep going. 23 So you didn't have any other obligations

that caused you to have time off?

Huh-huh. I don't want time off unless

Α

24

1 it's my off days. Now, you said you would drop him off and 2 3 you would go back about your business. Yeah. If it's not major, I drop him off 4 with his mom and I keep going to work. 5 6 Okay. But that was -- it happened during 7 your on-call time? Yes. I'm going to call them, let them 8 9 know what's going on. Usually they was big on family 10 so -- they had kids, so they told me to go ahead and knock it out. And I knock it out and I get back on 11 12 shift. 13 Did you ever have to come in late because 14 of family issues? Well, one time when my mom was living, so 15 16 I would say probably yeah. 17 And did you ever have to leave early because of family issues? 18 19 Yeah. Α 20 Q Did you ever have to take a day off for 21 that reason? 22 MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Asked and 23 answered. 2.4 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I answered that 25 question. I think that's what it's called,

```
1
            but it's not life threatening that, like, I
 2
            can leave him at home with his mom or hurry
 3
            him home to his mom because -- and I keep
 4
            going on to work.
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Was it ever called for
 5
 6
      that you had to miss a whole day?
 7
                  That I had to miss a whole day?
            Α
                  Yes.
 8
            Q
 9
            Α
                  Only if there was a doctor's appointment,
10
      yeah.
11
                  Do you pay for your own tools?
                  Like my jump box. I mean, all the tools I
12
13
      had before I came to Ideal, yeah.
14
                  You pay for your uniform?
                  I don't know. I just know it just $8 a
15
16
      week out your check for dry cleaning. So, I guess,
17
      you is paying for it.
18
                  Were you ever paid with checks at Ideal
19
      Towing?
20
                  Yeah.
21
                  Were you ever paid with cash at Ideal
22
      Towing -- by Ideal Towing?
23
                  No. I got a check.
24
                  Did you receive tips?
            Q
25
            Α
                  Yes.
```

```
1
                  How often?
            Q
                  Whenever they feel like giving it to you,
 2
            Α
 3
      if they had gratitude.
                  Daily?
 4
            Q
                  If you lucky.
 5
            Α
 6
                  Did you receive tips at least once every
            Q
 7
      week?
 8
                  Maybe. You going to have some weeks, it's
            Α
 9
      just not going to be that week.
10
                  Did it happen at least once every other
11
      week?
12
            Α
                  Probably so.
13
                  Did you report what you got in tips?
            Q
14
                  Didn't have to.
            Α
15
                  Who told you that?
            Q
16
                  Hey, where -- where you got to report it
      at? I ain't never heard. I mean, because they --
17
18
      hey, you got a tip today, high five. So, I guess,
19
      no.
20
            Q
                  Who would give you a high five?
21
                  Whoever you talking to. One of the
            Α
22
      drivers, supervisor.
23
            Q
                  Did you record how many tips you got?
24
            Α
                  No.
25
                  How much were you paid in tips?
            Q
```

```
1
                  I don't know. 5 here, 10 there.
            Α
 2
      blue moon, you get a 20.
 3
                  And that's per individual?
                  Yeah -- I mean, yeah. Like -- yeah.
 4
            Α
 5
      somebody tip me $300, I mean, I'll toll them -- hey,
 6
      I hope they call me every time.
 7
                  That was an example, right? You're not
      saying somebody did tip you 300 --
 8
 9
            Α
                  No, I'm just saying as an example, yeah.
10
                  What's the most you have been tipped
11
      before?
12
                  MR. BENJAMIN: At Ideal.
13
                  THE WITNESS: At Ideal, I had a girl
14
           tip me like $60.
15
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) At this time, is there
16
      anything that you would like to change, amend or
17
      alter from your testimony thus far?
18
            Α
                  No.
19
                  I have here what I'd like to mark as
20
      Defendant's Exhibit 1.
21
                   (Exhibit No. 1 was marked for
22
            identification.)
23
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Take a moment to look at
24
      that document. Do you recognize that?
25
            Α
                  Contract agreement.
```

```
But do you recognize it?
 1
 2
                  My name, the pay thing that I was telling
 3
      you about.
                  I'm not trying to trick you. I'm just
 4
      asking a yes or no question of whether or not you
 5
      recognize it. I mean, it's just part of laying the
 6
 7
      foundation that, you know, this is something that you
      know something about.
 8
                  I mean, I'm saying yeah. This is what you
10
      get when you get hired.
11
            0
                 Okay.
12
                  They give you that, tell you to sign it.
            Α
                  And you received this when you were being
13
14
      hired?
                 Yeah, when you get hired. When you being
15
16
      hired, you get hired, you come sign it.
17
                 And what's the date on this document?
            0
18
                  Well, I mean, I -- it was late because
19
      Tishja and James -- Tishja and Mike wasn't there when
20
      I got hired. I met them like a week or so after.
21
                  MR. BENJAMIN: He's asking what the
22
           date is.
23
                  THE WITNESS: 6/6/14.
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) So, are you saying June
24
25
      6th is when you met Mike James?
```

```
1
                  No, I can't say that.
                  But your testimony is that you received
 2
      this about a week after you got hired?
 3
                  My testimony saying I received that a week
 4
      after a week I was hired?
 5
 6
                  Yeah. That's my question.
 7
                  No, because I got hired in, like, April or
            Α
      something, May to April, end of March, April. Yeah,
 8
      April.
10
                  Okay.
11
                  Somewhere along in there, like first of
12
      April, end of March.
13
            Q
                  Okay.
14
            Α
                  This is June.
15
            Q
                  Okay.
16
                  So, I was hired before June.
17
                  Do you see at the bottom of that page
            Q
18
      where it says exclusivity.
19
                  Uh-huh.
            Α
20
            Q
                  Were you prevented from working other jobs
21
      while you were -- between 2014 and 2015?
22
                  Yeah, because you going to do 12-hour
23
      shifts. You ain't got no time for yourself. If you
24
      going to do something else, I mean, you're putting
25
      yourself in jeopardy.
```

```
What do you mean "in jeopardy"?
 1
                  You got to drive -- you got to drive,
 2
 3
      wherever else you going. You been driving all day
      for 12 hours, you need to be going home after you get
      off.
 5
 6
                  But you wouldn't by disciplined if you
 7
      were working another job?
                  I mean, I'm not trying to get no other
 8
      job. I'm just going to work this one job.
10
                  Right. My question though is would you be
11
      disciplined if you had another job?
12
                  I don't know.
            Α
                  What rule are you aware of that prevented
13
14
      you from getting another job?
                  I didn't want no other job.
15
16
                  What rule from Ideal Towing are you aware
      of that prevented you from getting another job?
17
                  I don't know. I'm not aware.
18
19
                  I have here what I'd like to mark as
20
      Defendant's Exhibit No. 2.
21
                  (Exhibit No. 2 was marked for
22
            identification.)
23
                  MR. MAHONEY: Now, Counsel, your
           version is not redacted, but the version I
2.4
25
            gave the court reporter is redacted.
```

```
1
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Very good. Thank
 2
                 Just so you understand what he just
 3
            said is he took off the social security
            number on the original, so --
 4
 5
                  THE WITNESS: Okay.
                  MR. BENJAMIN: -- if it's used in
 6
 7
            the court, your social security number will
            not be filed with the court.
 8
                  THE WITNESS: Okay.
10
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) And before we begin with
11
      two, can you look back at Exhibit 1. Is that your
12
      handwriting --
13
                  MR. BENJAMIN: On Exhibit 1.
14
                  MR. MAHONEY: Yes.
15
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) On Exhibit 1, is that
16
      your handwriting on that document?
17
            Α
                  Yes.
18
                  Now, can we look at Exhibit 2. Is that
19
      your handwriting?
20
            Α
                  Yes.
21
                  And if you look at the second page, is
22
      that your signature at the bottom?
23
            Α
                  Yes.
2.4
                  And did you write that date?
25
            Α
                  Yes.
```

```
What is the date?
 1
            Q
 2
            Α
                  May 27.
 3
                  Is that the day you came in to apply at
            Q
      Ideal Towing?
 5
                  I guess so. Yeah.
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Do you know.
 6
 7
                  THE WITNESS: I'm not actually sure
            from years. I just see it's the date
 8
            that's right there, that's the date that's
10
            right there, like I say.
11
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) So just to reiterate
12
      without sounding like a broken record, we don't want
13
      you to speculate, but if the document helps refresh
14
      your recollection of the date, then you can state
      with certainty -- if you can state with certainty,
15
16
      then you'd say yeah, that was the date.
17
                  So my question is: Did you write that
18
      date?
19
                  Yeah. That was the date right there.
            Α
20
            Q
                  And is that the date you came in to apply
21
      to work at Ideal Towing?
22
                  Yeah, I guess. Yeah. I'm not going to
23
      spec -- yeah. If that's what it say, that's what it
24
      say.
```

MR. BENJAMIN: I'm sorry.

The

```
1
            answer's still...
 2
                  MR. MAHONEY: The record's going to
 3
            show that -- that he said, yeah, I guess,
           but, yeah -- yes is his --
 5
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Okay.
                  MR. MAHONEY: -- is his answer.
 6
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah, that's what --
 8
           okay.
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Okay. Do you have a
10
      reason to dispute that that date is correct, that
11
      that's the date you came in to apply at Ideal Towing?
12
                 Like I say, I don't know because it was
13
      three years ago.
14
                  All right. And if you look at about the
      fifth line under applicants information, do you see
15
16
      where it says date available?
17
            Α
                  Yeah.
                  What date is written there?
18
            0
19
                  5/28.
            Α
20
                  What year?
            Q
21
                  2014.
            Α
22
                  Is that the date that you were available
23
      to start working at Ideal Towing?
2.4
            Α
              Yeah. When I was at work, yeah, soon as
25
      possible. So, yeah, that's the next day.
```

```
1
                  If you look over on that same line, do you
 2
      see where it says desired salary?
 3
            Α
                  Yes.
                  And what does that say?
 5
                  Open for -- it's open, meaning open for
            Α
 6
      discussion.
 7
                 All right. Did you discuss what your
            0
      salary was going to be with Michael James?
 8
 9
                 Kelly told me what it was. Michael James
10
      confirmed it.
11
                 And you agreed to that?
12
            Α
                  I ain't have no choice. I mean, is it --
13
      okay.
                 You didn't have a choice?
14
15
                  I mean, I got a choice if I want to accept
16
      the job or not. Okay. I need the job, I accepted
17
      it.
               All right. If you look down at
18
            0
19
      references, is that Al Ransom, the friend you were
20
      talking about?
21
                  Yes.
            Α
22
                  And is that still his phone number?
23
                  No. It's changed three years ago. So,
24
      yeah, it's changed. It's not that. That's a cell
25
      phone it look like.
```

```
Can you look at the next page?
 1
            Q
 2
            Α
                  Okay.
 3
                  Do you see where you input Auto Access
            Q
      Towing?
 4
                  Uh-huh.
 5
            Α
 6
                  MR. BENJAMIN: That's a yes, right?
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Yes.
                  MR. MAHONEY: Thanks.
 8
 9
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Is that Robert Glover's
10
      phone number?
11
                  I think, yeah. That's the business --
12
      that's the business phone number. Yes. I don't know
13
      if it still his or not.
                 Why didn't you list J&J on this
14
      application?
15
16
                  Because it didn't say be specific. It was
      three in a row, and it's three I put there. And J&J,
17
18
      I had an option.
19
                  Had a what?
20
                  Had a option to work or not. You know, if
21
      I didn't feel like working that day, I didn't go.
22
                  So you had complete control over --
23
                  Yeah. He just come ask if I want to ride
24
      with him.
25
            0
                  I have here what's marked as Defendant's
```

```
Exhibit 3.
 1
 2
                   (Exhibit No. 3 was marked for
 3
            identification.)
                   (By Mr. Mahoney) Take a moment to look at
 4
      that.
 5
 6
            Α
                   Okay.
 7
                   Do you recognize that document?
            Q
 8
            Α
                   Yes.
            Q
                   What is that document?
10
            Α
                   1099.
11
                   To who?
            0
                   To me.
12
            Α
                  From who?
13
            Q
14
                   Ideal Towing.
            Α
15
                   Did you receive this 1099 in 2014 or early
16
      2015?
                   2015.
17
            Α
18
                   Have you ever had a tax ID number?
19
                   No. For like a business ID number or just
20
      like tax preparation?
21
                   Your answer was --
            Q
22
            Α
                   Okay.
23
            Q
                   -- perfectly fine.
24
                   I don't have a tax ID number.
            Α
25
            0
                   Is the number on this form representative
```

```
of the money you received from Ideal Towing in 2014?
 1
 2
               I guess, if that's what they saying I
 3
      made.
             Do you have a reason to dispute that's
           Q
      what you received that year?
 5
              I don't know. I never seen the
 6
 7
      itemization.
             Now, you discuss an itemization. I want
 8
      to be clear. I'm not talking about what you believe
10
      should have earned. I'm talking about what you
11
      actually received from them.
12
                  So my question is: Is that what you
13
      received?
14
                 If that's what it say.
                 And do you have a reason to dispute that?
15
           Q
16
                 Right now I can't tell if it's a lie or
17
      not.
              I have here what's marked as Defendant's
18
           0
19
      Exhibit 4.
20
                  (Exhibit No. 4 was marked for
21
           identification.)
22
              (By Mr. Mahoney) Take a moment to look at
23
      that. Do you recognize that document?
2.4
             It's a 1099.
           Α
25
             Do you recognize it?
```

```
1
                  Yeah. It's a 1099. Yeah. My name on it.
            Α
 2
            Q
                  So you received this --
 3
                  Yes.
            Α
                  -- from Ideal Towing?
 4
            Q
 5
                  Yes.
            Α
 6
                  For what year?
            Q
 7
                  2015.
            Α
 8
                  Did you receive any other 1099s from Ideal
            Q
      Towing?
10
            Α
                  No.
11
                  And did you work any other years from
      Ideal Towing?
12
13
                  No.
            Α
14
                  The amount listed there, do you have any
15
      reason to dispute that that's what you received --
16
                  If that's what they say --
17
                  -- from Ideal Towing in 2015?
18
            Α
                  No. I can't say that. That's what it is,
19
      that's what it is. I don't know if it's a lie or
20
      not.
21
                  And as you sit here today, can you think
            Q
22
      of any evidence that is in your possession to dispute
23
      that?
2.4
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
25
                  THE WITNESS: I don't know. No.
```

```
(By Mr. Mahoney) I have here what's marked
 1
      as Defendant's Exhibit No. 6.
 2
                  MR. BENJAMIN: I think it's 5.
 3
                  MR. MAHONEY: All right. Correct
            the record. It's Exhibit No. 5.
 5
                  (Exhibit No. 5 was marked for
 6
 7
            identification.)
 8
              (By Mr. Mahoney) Take a moment to look at
      that. Do you recognize that document?
10
                Yeah. All this look like the stuff that
11
      they give you to sign. Yeah.
12
                 What is that document?
13
                  It's a tool doc, a mandatory tool
      preparation.
14
15
                  Is that your name at the bottom?
            Q
16
            Α
                  Yes.
17
                  Is that your signature?
            Q
                  Yes.
18
            Α
19
                  And what's the date on it?
            Q
20
                  June 6.
            Α
21
                  What year?
            Q
22
                  2014.
            Α
23
            Q
                  And did you write that?
2.4
            Α
                  Yes.
25
                  Did you have any of these tools in your
            Q
```

```
1
      personal possession on June 6, 2014?
 2
                  Did I have any of them in my possession as
 3
      my own?
 4
            0
                  Yes.
 5
                  My cell phone, my flashlight, my -- my
 6
      gloves, and my vest.
 7
                  And did you purchase any of the other
 8
      tools that you did not already have?
 9
            Α
                  Jump box.
                  How about a lockout kit?
10
11
                  No. I already had it. And I said lockout
12
      kit. I thought I did. I'm sorry.
13
                  That's fine.
            Q
14
                  You didn't own a wrench?
15
                  Yeah, but that usually be with the truck,
            Α
16
      I guess. I ain't bring mine.
17
                  All right.
            Q
18
            Α
                  Not my personal.
19
                  Same thing with the jack?
            Q
20
            Α
                  No.
21
                  When you say no, you mean no you did not
            Q
22
23
            Α
                  I mean, no --
24
                  -- you didn't use your own jack?
            Q
25
                  I don't bring my personal.
            Α
```

```
1
                  But you did use one?
 2
            Α
                  Yeah. If it was on the truck, it got
 3
      used.
                  At this time, is there anything in your
 4
            Q
      testimony that you want to correct, amend, or alter?
 5
 6
            Α
                  Not really.
 7
                  When did -- when did you come to believe
 8
      that you should have been an employee rather than a
 9
      commission based contractor?
10
                  When I was told I had to be here and I
11
      couldn't come on my own time, then you an employee.
12
                  What year was that?
            Q
13
                  When I started. 2014.
            Α
14
                  Did you complain to anyone about the 2014
      1099 you received in 2014 -- well, in 2015?
15
16
            Α
                  I didn't know nobody. So, no.
17
                  So is that a no?
            0
18
            Α
                  No.
19
                  Did you complain to anyone about the 2015
20
      1099 you received in 2016?
21
                  No.
            Α
22
                  Did you complain to anyone about the
23
      amount stated on either of those 1099s?
2.4
                  No, because I didn't know.
            Α
25
                  Just to be clear, my last question, I was
            Q
```

```
1
      asking about the amount of the money that you
      received.
 2
                 That's with Ideal, I didn't. I just got
 3
      it.
 5
                 Okay.
            Q
                  I don't know what's true or not.
 6
            Α
 7
                  But you didn't dispute it -- you didn't
            0
 8
      dispute the 2014 1099 in 2015, did you?
 9
                  I don't have no way of disputing either
10
      one of them because I don't know. All I just know is
11
      they say here is what you made and that's what you
12
      made.
13
              And you didn't dispute the amount listed
      in the 2015 1099 in 2016, did you?
14
15
                  No. Because that's what they said I made.
16
      So, I mean, I ain't -- I don't have no proof.
17
                  Weren't you paid by check?
            Q
18
            Α
                  Yes.
19
                  Does Ideal Towing sell any goods?
            Q
20
                  Does they sell goods?
            Α
21
                  Yes.
            0
22
            Α
                  I don't know.
23
                  Did you ever sell any goods while you were
24
      employed at Ideal Towing?
25
           Α
                  No.
```

```
1
                  Did you ever see any Ideal Towing
 2
      employees contractors, selling any goods?
 3
            Α
                  No.
                  Does Ideal Towing provide services?
 5
                  Towing services, roadside assistance
            Α
 6
      services.
 7
            0
                  You worked on Christmas 2015?
 8
                  Maybe. I don't know. Probably so.
            Α
            Q
                  Did you take any time during that day to
10
      spend with your family?
                  I stay in the zone, so of course I stopped
11
12
      by to say hey to my kids and left.
13
                 Open presents?
            Q
14
                  If they gave me one.
15
                  What about when they opened their own
16
      presents?
17
                  Well, yeah, I watched a couple of
18
      presents, but that's it. I had to go.
19
                  Did you ever work a different shift at
20
      Ideal Towing?
21
                  Did I ever work a different shift?
22
            Q
                  Yes.
23
            Α
                  Of course.
2.4
                  You worked night shift sometimes?
            Q
25
            Α
                  That's where I started.
```

```
1
            Q Okay. When did you change from night
 2
      shift to day shift?
                  Like after 4th of July, somewhere around
 3
      there. But I'll say probably between 4th of July and
 4
 5
      August. Around that area.
                  So on the 4th of July, you were working
 6
 7
      night shift?
 8
                  Yeah. I worked at night.
            Α
 9
                  MR. MAHONEY: No further questions.
10
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Okay. I have a
11
            couple.
12
                           EXAMINATION
13
      BY MR. BENJAMIN:
14
                  While you were working at Ideal Towing,
15
      did you ever do any maintenance or repairs on cars
      for Ideal?
16
17
              For Ideal?
            Α
18
            0
                 Yes.
19
            Α
                  No.
20
                  If you were on duty, during your shift at
            Q
21
      Ideal and a call came in, would you be required to
22
      take that call and go on it?
23
            Α
                  Yes.
                 Had it ever happened to you that you
24
25
      ordered food at a restaurant and then you got a call
```

```
before your food got there?
 1
 2
            Α
                  Yes.
                  What did you do?
 3
            Q
            Α
                  Leave.
                  Did you get to eat your meal?
 5
            Q
 6
            Α
                  No.
 7
                  Did you have any way of increasing or
            0
      decreasing the number of calls that you went on in a
 8
      week at Ideal?
10
                  No.
11
                  Did you go on every call that you received
12
      when you were on shift?
13
                  If I received it, I went.
14
                  Could you, while you were on shift, but
      not on a call, be far away from the truck?
15
16
                  No. You got to be within -- you got to be
      with your truck, if not in your truck.
17
18
                  Was there a specific amount of time that
19
      between receiving a call that you were required to
20
      respond?
21
                  Not really. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Like
22
      within, like, fifty -- like a, what is it, a
23
      55-minute time frame or 45 minutes. Whatever --
24
      whatever they window is for that time.
25
                  But maybe my question wasn't clear.
```

I mean from the time that you were 1 2 notified that there was a call in your geographic 3 area, was there a limitation on how quickly you needed to respond that you will take that call? 5 You put in your -- you put in the time you 6 show. Like if you think it will take you 30 minutes, 7 you put in 30 minutes so the automatic service will call the number back and then let them know that your 8 9 truck will be arriving in such and such time. 10 How soon after you get a notification that there's a tow job for you that you have to notify 11 12 Ideal in some way whether you're taking the call or 13 not? 14 They already know. How do they know? 15 Q 16 It's a soft -- it's a system software. 17 comes up. So nine times -- like most of the time, I 18 quess, they send it out to you. 19 Well, once you were notified that there 20 was a call, would you respond to say, yes, I -- I've 21 heard what you said and I know there's a call? 22 Yeah. It comes across a tablet. You hit 23 yes. 24 Was there any requirement of how quickly

you needed to hit yes after receiving notification of

```
a towing job?
 1
 2
                  Yeah, as soon as you get it.
 3
            Q
                 Is that what you did?
            Α
                  Yes.
 5
                  Did you ever leave Ideal Towing after your
 6
      shift ended because you received a towing job close
 7
      to the end of your shift that wasn't finished by the
 8
      end of your shift?
            Α
                  No.
10
                  So if your shift was supposed to end at
11
      7:00 and you got a call at a quarter to seven --
12
                 Oh, will I take it?
            Α
13
                  Yes.
            Q
14
                  Yeah.
            Α
15
                  And would you be finished by the time your
16
      shift ended?
17
                 Oh, no. It would -- it would depend on
18
      traffic or how far it's going or whatever and how
19
      long it take you to get to that call.
20
                 How frequently did you finish your actual
            Q
21
      work after your shift ended?
22
                  After my shift ended?
23
            Q
                  Right.
24
                  Frequently did I finish my work?
            Α
25
            0
                  Yes.
```

```
I completed all my assignments.
 1
            Α
 2
                  Again, maybe my question is not clear.
 3
                  How frequently did you not finish your
      work for Ideal by the time your shift was supposed to
 4
      end at 7:00?
 5
 6
                  MR. MAHONEY: Objection.
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Numerous of times.
            can't -- I can't count.
 8
                  (By Mr. Benjamin) I don't have any --
10
                  Mostly -- mostly all the time because
11
      everybody be ready to go and I be the last one to get
12
      stuck with it.
13
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Okay. I have no
14
           other questions.
                  MR. MAHONEY: Okay. Just recross.
15
16
                           EXAMINATION
17
      BY MR. MAHONEY:
                  Did the calls come in from AAA or Ideal?
18
            0
19
            Α
                  I don't know. It just came across the
20
      tablet.
21
                  How much communication did you have with
            0
22
      AAA?
23
                  We let dispatch deal with that, so it was
24
      like rare. I mean, we -- very little.
25
                  Did you ever speak to AAA dispatch?
            0
```

```
Yeah. Probably.
 1
            Α
 2
                  You weren't told to bring the truck in an
      hour before the end of the shift?
 3
            Α
                  No.
                  And did you ever take the truck home for
 5
      any reason?
 6
 7
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection. Asked and
            answered.
 8
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) After the shift?
10
                 Only if I was told to, if I had
11
      permission.
12
                 How did you know if you were speaking to
      Ideal dispatch versus AAA dispatch?
13
14
                  Because you call AAA dispatch, they call
      Ideal dispatch. If Ideal can't get through, they'll
15
      try to call AAA. We us -- the drivers try not to
16
17
      call AAA because you be on hold so long. You don't
18
      want to sit there and hear that music trying to
19
      drive. And you're not supposed to drive and talk on
20
      the phone on a commercial vehicle.
21
                  And you're talking about when you call the
            Q
22
      dispatch, correct?
23
            Α
                  Yeah.
2.4
                  What about when dispatch calls you?
25
            Α
                  Which one?
```

Do you know the difference? 1 They'll tell you hi, this is such and such 2 3 with AAA or there dis -- our dispatch call and say hey, this is -- you know, just whoever on the thing, 4 5 whoever it is -- the dispatcher is. 6 So if dispatch calls and they don't 7 introduce themselves as AAA, do they introduce themselves as Ideal or do you assume that they're 8 Ideal? 10 You going to know who you working with. 11 Who is the dispatcher that -- that calls 12 you --13 Yeah, you going to check and see who your Α 14 dispatcher for the day so you'll know who, you know. 15 And who regularly calls? Is it AAA 16 dispatchers or Ideal dispatchers? 17 Ideal dispatchers call you, but AAA will 18 remind you and sometimes they try to overstep 19 their... But we usually let them get with the 20 office. Sometimes we don't answer the phone. And 21 we'll notify our dispatch that they're doing that, 22 and they'll call and see what the problem is. 23 Do driver's change their shifts often? 24 You have day shift and you have night

25

shift.

```
Do they change them often?
 1
            Q
 2
            Α
                  Every day.
 3
                  I'm not sure if we're on the same page.
            Q
                  Can one driver change his shifts from day
 4
      to night more than once in one week?
 5
 6
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
 7
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah. I mean, if you
            ask?
 8
            Q
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) If you have some kind of
10
      responsibility you may need to change your shift?
11
                  If they need you to work day shift for
12
      that day, yeah, he'll ask you. And if you get it, if
13
      they go in your --
14
                  Sorry?
            Q
15
                  Your livelihood --
16
                  Sorry for interrupting you, but when you
      say he ask you, do you mean another driver will ask
17
18
      you to switch shifts with you?
19
                  No, no, no, no, no. I'm saying
20
      management.
21
                 Oh management?
22
                  Yeah. It got be approved. You just can't
            Α
23
      switch.
24
                  Oh. So you can ask management if you want
25
      to change your shift, right?
```

```
Well, I mean, yeah, if you feel like
 1
 2
      that's what you need to do, but I didn't.
 3
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Just on the record, I
            think there's a miscommunication between
            switching shifts and swapping shifts.
 5
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah.
 6
 7
                  MR. MAHONEY: Yeah. I was asking
            can you switch shifts often. I only said
 8
            swapping because he said he. And I didn't
10
            know if he meant another driver or if he
11
           meant --
12
                  THE WITNESS: No. You got to do
13
           your shift. Your shift is your shift.
14
           Night shift, that's it, you know.
15
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) You switched from day
16
      shift to night shift, didn't -- did you switch from
17
      night shift to day shift?
18
            Α
                  Yeah.
19
                  Did you ever shift from day shift to night
            Q
20
      shift?
21
                  From day shift to the night shift?
            Α
22
            Q
                  Yes.
23
                  If I'll go. If I had to stay over and
24
      help, yeah, that's considered part of the night
25
      shift.
```

Q I mean, did your shift change from being on day shift to being on night shift --

A Yeah, I had a crazy schedule when I was working night shift, Man. I was actually kind of good where I would -- I could -- on certain days -- like the driver that drives the truck during the day shift, he was an older guy so he was off the weekends. So that was my chance to work like Saturday mornings and get off early from my night shift. So, if that's what you asking, yeah, it's possible, but it got to be agreed upon. And then you got to make sure you can do it. If you agree upon it, then you got to do it.

Q So as long as it was approved, you could change your schedule?

A Yeah. But I wasn't -- it was not because you wanted to.

Q If an individual asks you to do a tow job, do you have to forward that information to Ideal Tow, or can you just decline it right then and there?

A I mean, yeah, you can decline it. I mean, that's not generated from Ideal, so it's up to me to call in and do it, or sometimes if it was just something you didn't want to deal with, don't put yourself in that predicament.

```
If you received a call from Ideal and you
 1
 2
      told them you're at lunch, they wouldn't make you
 3
      stop your lunch, would they?
                  Just so you took it with you, because you
      -- because you drive.
 5
 6
                  But if you said you're on your lunch hour,
 7
      for instance, --
                  We don't get lunch breaks.
 8
            Α
            Q
                  -- you can't do that?
10
                  We don't get lunch breaks. You sneak a
11
      lunch in whenever you get -- can find the time. Get
12
      a fast food burger joint that can put it out quick
13
      enough.
14
                  Did you ever receive a call for a job you
      couldn't perform?
15
16
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Objection to form.
                  THE WITNESS: Yeah. If a car is too
17
18
           big and you can't perform it, you got to
19
            call in and let your dispatch know that
20
            this is job for a medium truck. That's the
21
           only way.
22
                  (By Mr. Mahoney) Was there any
23
      restrictions on where you could take the truck?
2.4
                 On where I took the truck?
            Δ
25
                  Yes.
            0
```

```
Yeah, if they ain't know how you -- taking
1
            Α
2
      it to zone. You got to stay in the zone.
 3
                  Right. But you can take it anywhere in
      the zone?
5
                  Anywhere within the zone?
            Α
 6
            0
                  Yeah.
7
                  You can go anywhere you like.
            Α
                  Isn't it true that you can increase the
8
            Q
9
      amount of tow jobs you performed in a day by having
10
      individuals flag you down and calling in and going on
11
      that tow job?
12
                  Yeah, but then it's also up to Ideal if
13
      they want to take a call or not. It depends.
14
      we're busy with AAA that day, we're not taking no
      privates, because all it's doing is hold up
15
16
      everything. But if it's slow, yeah, we might do a
17
      couple.
18
                  And you could decrease the amount of jobs
19
      you performed if you didn't take any of those private
20
      individuals that tried to --
21
                  I wouldn't actually say decrease. The pri
22
23
            0
                  But it would be less --
24
            Α
                  The privates ain't going to make no
25
      difference if the calls running. One private
```

- screaming you down compared to about 10 calls coming in.
 - Q You get paid by the job though, don't you?
- 4 A Yeah.

- Q And if you don't take that, you have to wait for a call, isn't that one less that you did prior to the next call?
- A Yeah. It can be, but depends on if -- if we got AAA calls, which we're not going to do -- our priority is AAA. It's road -- it's that roadside.
- Q You don't know when the next AAA call's going to come in, do you.
- A Well, it might be already there. You don't know until you finish -- you log out from that call, then you get your affirm. Because that might -- soon -- soon as I text -- soon as I hit complete, beep, and go through the system, it might beep, oh, that's another one.
- Q Right. And also it could take an hour for that to happen?
- A Every -- yeah. So, you know, then -- if that happened, then, yeah, I guess you could take a private. But who's saying somebody going to be out there at that hour.
- 25 MR. MAHONEY: No further questions.

```
1
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Just one.
 2
                           EXAMINATION
 3
      BY MR. BENJAMIN:
                  If you saw a private person flagging you
 4
 5
      down, who's decision was it on whether you would do
 6
      that call? Was that up to Ideal or was that up to
 7
      you?
 8
                  That's up to Ideal if you call it in.
            Α
            Q
                  Did you call them in?
10
                  If I stopped.
            Α
11
                  MR. BENJAMIN: No questions.
12
                  MR. MAHONEY: One more.
13
                  MR. BENJAMIN: Let's keep them in
14
           there scope of redirect.
15
                  MR. MAHONEY: Yes.
16
                           EXAMINATION
17
      BY MR. MAHONEY:
                  Could Ideal approve a call if you didn't
18
19
      notify them about it?
20
                  If I didn't notify them about it?
21
                  Yes.
            0
                  If I don't notify nobody, they don't know.
22
23
      But I'm not going to stop and not notify anybody
24
      because they could tell where -- everywhere I'm
25
      sitting.
```

```
1
                  Right. And --
            Q
 2
            Α
                  So if you just stop --
                  And I'm not sure if that was clear.
 3
            Q
 4
      me rephrase it.
 5
                  And we're talking about individuals that
 6
      flagged you down.
 7
            Α
                  Uh-huh.
                  Specifically.
 8
            Q
 9
            Α
                  Uh-huh.
10
                  Could -- did Ideal have an opportunity to
11
      approve those if you never called it in?
12
                  Well, if they know about it before I get
            Α
13
      to that point, yeah, they'll call and say hey, you
14
      coming down 285? Yeah. You by Northlake now, right?
15
      Yeah. Well, I got a car down here by I-20, she just
      called in. You'll stop and pull over for her? It's
16
17
      a such and such. Do that and they let you know
18
      what's going to be.
19
                  I understand that, but I'm talking about
20
      specifically when they flag you -- when an individual
21
      flags you down --
22
            Α
                  Right down.
23
            Q
                  Right.
24
            Α
                 Okay. I'm not going to stop and not call
25
      my employer.
```

```
Right. And it's your decision whether or
 1
            Q
 2
      not to --
 3
                  Yeah. It depends on what's going on.
                                                          Ιf
      I'm in a rush going to the next call, I ain't
 4
 5
      stopping.
                  MR. MAHONEY: No further questions.
 6
 7
                  MR. BENJAMIN: We'll read and sign.
 8
                  MR. MAHONEY: All right. Thank you
           very much for your time.
10
                  (Whereupon proceedings concluded at
11
            1:21 p.m.)
12
                  (It was stipulated and agreed by and
13
           between counsel for the respective parties
14
            and the witness that the signature of the
15
           witness to the deposition be reserved.)
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

1 DISCLOSURE 2 Pursuant to Article 10.B of the Rules 3 and Regulations of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of 4 Georgia which states: "Each court reporter shall tender a disclosure form at the time of the taking of the deposition stating the 5 arrangements made for the reporting 6 services of the certified court reporter, by the certified court reporter, the court 7 reporter's employer or the referral source for the deposition, with any party to the litigation, counsel to the parties, or 8 other entity. Such form shall be attached 9 to the deposition transcript," I make the following disclosure: 10 I am a Georgia Certified Court Reporter. 11 am here as a representative of L. George Court Reporting. L. George Court Reporting was contacted to provide court reporting 12 services for the deposition. L. George 13 Court Reporting will not be taking this deposition under any contract that is prohibited by O.C.G.A. 9-11-28(c). 14 15 L. George Court Reporting contract/agreement to provide reporting services with any party to the case, any counsel in the case, or any 16 reporter or reporting agency from whom a 17 referral might have been made to cover this deposition. 18 L. George Court Reporting will charge its 19 usual and customary rates to all parties in the case, and a financial discount will not 20 be given to any party to this litigation. 21 22 Lamarra George, CCR-2582 May 4, 2017 23 2.4

25

1 CERTIFICATE 2 3 STATE OF GEORGIA: 4 COUNTY OF FULTON: 5 6 I hereby certify that the foregoing 7 transcript was taken down, as stated in the caption, and the questions and answers 8 thereto were reduced to typewriting under 10 my direction; that the foregoing pages 1 11 through 119 represent a true, complete, and 12 correct transcript of the evidence given 13 upon said hearing, and I further certify 14 that I am not of kin or counsel to the 15 parties in the case; am not in the regular 16 employ of counsel for any of said parties; 17 nor am I in any way interested in the result of said case. 18 19 This, the 4th day of May, 2017. 20 21 22 23

2.4

25

Lamarra George, CCR-2582 My commission expires on the 1st of April 2017.

DEPOSITION OF CARLON LEWIS/LG						
I do hereby certify that I have read all questions propounded to me and all answers given by me on the 4th day of May 2017, taken before Lamarra George, and that:						
1) There are no changes noted.						
Pursuant to Rule 30(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 9-11-30(e), both of which read in part: Any changes in form or substance which you desire to make shall be entered upon the depositionwith a						
statement of the reasons givenfor making them. Accordingly, to assist you in effecting corrections,						
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plea depo Swor this	se furni sition. n to and the	CARLON LEWIS subscribed be day of	sewriting annexed to this
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